

JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 349.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1913.

ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

731348

For meaning of
this No. see
Page III. of Cover.



*The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

2 DISTINCT
PRIZES

£6

**A WEEK
FOR LIFE!
GUARANTEED
AT LLOYDS'**

AND

**£600
IN CASH**

See page 209,

A TON OF COAL for 2/6

*Its cost a box of Seldonite.
Abundantly repays:
In every hundredweight of coal
A hundredweight it saves.*

"Seldonite" (so called after the discoverer, Prof. Frank Seldon) doubles the heating and lasting power of Coal, Slack, or Coke. It makes one scuttleful of cheap Coal go as far and give as good a heat as two scuttlefuls of the best Coal do in the ordinary way. It can be applied to all Coal, Slack, or Coke in a few moments, and Coal which has once been "Seldonised" retains its double strength for any length of time. By using "Seldonite," you can save half or more of your coal-money, and you will ensure greater cleanliness and comfort, because your Coal will burn to fine ashes with a complete absence of soot.

"SELDONITE" is Concentrated Heat

If you use only one ton of Coal per month, "Seldonite" will save you about £4 in the winter. It is guaranteed to be perfectly harmless, does not smell or smoke, and gives a bright, beautiful, intensely hot fire. "Seldonite" can be used easily in the smallest household as well as in the largest factory, and its money-saving effect is equally great, whether for kitchen, grate, oven, copper or furnace.

AS A SPECIAL INDUCEMENT to encourage you to convince yourself of the marvellous efficiency of this Coal-Improver, the Sole Licensees have decided to send a full-size 4s. box (sufficient to treat one ton of Coal, Slack, or Coke) to all readers for only 2s. 6d., provided the order and P.O. for 2s. 6d. is received within the next few days. Beware of imitations which are useless. Write to-day, enclosing P.O. for 2s. 6d., to the Sole Licensees—

"Seld:nite" Laboratories, Dept. 79, Holtorn Hall, W.C.

A FEW WELL-KNOWN USERS OF "SELDONITE."

DOWAGER COUNTESS OF GUILFORD.
VISCOUNT COMBERMER.
LADY ANGLIER.
LADY L. WEMYSS.
LADY HARRIET WARDE.
LADY BROWNLOW CECIL.
SIR S. PONSONBY.
HON. MRS. SIDNEY PONSONBY.
HON. R. HENLEY EDEN.
ADMIRAL SIR JAMES BRUCE.
COL. LEIR.
COL. BUTLIN.
CAPT. RICHMOND.
CAPT. WEBBE.

THE MOTHER SUPERIOR, House of
Retreat, London.
ST. EDITH HOME FOR GIRLS.
REV. D. LEWIS, Llanon.
REV. JOHN M. MILLER, Symington.
REV. ALEX. WALKER, Millport.
REV. C. WILSON, Arklow.
REV. T. T. TAYLOR, Chelmsford.
REV. CANON WILSON-BROWN, Bury
St. Edmunds.
REV. C. D. SNELL, Sevenoaks.
REV. R. R. CORBOLD, Ipswich.
REV. DR. I. WILLIAMS, Royston.
REV. BANFIELD, Hertingfordbury.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

The Clemak Safety Razor—at 5s.—is
Made as Well and Shaves as Well as
any Guinea Safety Razor.



... Note how carefully it is made—the perfection of every detail—its beautiful finish. Look at the blade, feel its keen cutting edge. No other blade could shave your beard more easily than that.

... Now put the CLEMAK side by side with any other Safety Razor offered at a Guinea. You will find the difference that it is in every way the equal of the other Razor—and costs you 1/6 less to buy. Then why pay a guinea?

The only way to keep a razor sharp is to strop it. To buy a safety razor, and throw dull blades away, means a continuous expense for new blades. The CLEMAK avoids all this.



Why not let your COMING HOLIDAY be free from shaving trouble?

... The barber is busy, so buy a Clemak and save yourself annoyance and waste of time.

... The Clemak Razor is undoubtedly the best shaving investment you can possibly make, and by its trustworthy and reliable service will prove a friend for life. ... Buy one to-day.

... The Clemak Safety Razor and the Clemak Stropper is a perfect Shaving Combination. They cost together 6s. 6d., and last a lifetime. Why pay a guinea?

COMBINATION CASE, 20 Shaving Machines, and Strops 1/6d. OF ALL STORES, CUTLERS, &c., CLEMAK RAZOR CO., LONDON, 1913.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

FOOTBALL COMPETITION

See
page
209.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches Played Saturday, March 1.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club.
For a draw do not cross out either club.

Bolton Wanderers ..	v.	Blackburn Rovers
Chelsea ..	v.	Manchester City.
Liverpool ..	v.	Derby County.
Newcastle ..	v.	Everton.
Notts County ..	v.	Sunderland.
Oldham ..	v.	West Bromwich.
Sheffield United ..	v.	Sheffield Wednesday.
Clapton Orient ..	v.	Bristol City.
Glossop ..	v.	Birmingham.
Hull City ..	v.	Huddersfield.
Leicester Fosse ..	v.	Fulham.
Lincoln City ..	v.	Notts Forest.
Stockport County ..	v.	Bury.
Wolverhampton W. ..	v.	Barnsley.
Brighton and Hove ..	v.	Reading.
Merthyr ..	v.	Crystal Palace.
Portsmouth ..	v.	Norhampton.
Swindon ..	v.	Queen's Park R.
Watford ..	v.	Plymouth.
West Ham ..	v.	Norwich.

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on page, 209, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS,
Formerly the Properties of
LADY MEUX, THE LATE LORD LISTER, LADY ALICE HOSTE, & OTHERS.
NOW ON SALE.

THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES, LTD.

Send for Photographic Catalogue. Sent post free.

Hours of Business: open every day 9 till 8, excepting Saturday, when we close at 1 o'clock.

The following is an abbreviated list of articles now to be seen:—
4 ft. 6 in. Oak Sideboard, £3 12s. 6d.; 6 Dining Chairs and 2 Carving Chairs to match, £4 15s.; Dining Table, 36s. 6d.; 12 Overmantels at 17s. 6d.; Large Size well-sprung Chesterfield and a Lounge Easies, £7 15s.; 20 Queen Anne Design Dining Room Chairs, Leather Seats, 24s. 6d. each; Massive Elizabethan Design Sideboard, 6 Chairs, and 2 Massive Carving Chairs to match, Heavily Carved Dining Table to match, will accept £7 10s. the suite; 10 ft. Dining Table, 18s. 6d.; Handsome Queen Anne Design Sideboard, £7 15s.

THE BEDROOM FURNITURE comprises 28 Complete Bedrooms.
5 Oak Bedroom Suites with full Chest of Drawers to Dressing Chest, £4 10s. 10 Oak Bedsteads at 14s. 6d.; 3 Large Size Walnut Bedroom Suites, £6 15s. 3 Large Size Bedsteads with Sanitary Woven Wire Spring Overlay, Bolster and 2 Pillows, £2 12s. 6d. complete; 4 Handsome Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, £7 15s.; Pair of Twin Bedsteads to match, 63s.; Large Double Oval Door Bedroom Suite, Sheraton Design, £15 15s.; Reflex Mirrors to Dressing-table. Full-size Bedstead to match, £2 15s.; A very fine Gent's Wardrobe, £6 15s.; Handsome Walnut Dressing Chest and Washstand, £4 10s.; Handsome 6 ft. Louis XV. Bedroom Suite, most exquisite Design, £28; Old Dutch Wardrobe, no reasonable offer refused. 7 ft. Mahogany Wardrobe, fitted two-thirds hanging, one-third drawers and trays, 12 gns.; 3 Large-size Oak Bedroom Suites, £8 15s. Several Chests of Drawers, 18s. 6d.; 6 ft. Inlaid Sheraton design Bedroom Suite, an absolute bargain, 25 gns.; 3 Exquisite Design Inlaid Bedroom Suites, with shaving mirror to washstand, £11; 5 White Enamel Bedroom Suites, £6 10s.; Bedstead to match, 30s.

DRAWING ROOMS:—
Chesterfield, 2 Very Comfortable Lounge Easy Chairs and 4 Solid Mahogany Occasional Chairs all covered in fine art Tapestry, £22 11s., worth double; Louis XV. Design Cabinet, £2 15s.; Another, similar design, £4 15s.; 3 Chesterfield, with adjustable ends £3 15s.; 10 Lounge Easy Chairs, 17s. 6d.; Settee, 2 Tub Easy Chairs, 4 Occasional Chairs, £6 6s. Upright Piano by Gustav Richter, £18 18s.; Another by Collard and Collard, £16 10s. A very fine selection of Chesterfields and Easy Chairs always in Stock. Also Bed and Table Linen. 50 Carpets from 7s. 6d. Turkey Carpets, all sizes, for £4.

Any Article will be sold separately, and can be selected at once, and can be stored until required free of charge.
All goods delivered and packed free of charge. Special attention given to export orders.

THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET FURNITURE & ANTIQUE DEPOSITORIES,

92, 93, & 94 NEWMAN STREET, OXFORD STREET, W.
One Door from Oxford St. Three minutes from Tottenham Court Rd. and Oxford Circus, & adjoining all the principal tubes. Telephone: 1307 Central.

JOHN BULL.

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant :
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

Vol. XIV. No. 349. Week ending Saturday, February 8th, 1913.

One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All FINANCIAL, INSURANCE and SPORTING enquiries should be addressed to the CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C. All other communications should be addressed to 93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for FEBRUARY 1st, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number 596,316. Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The John Bull League.

**The PRESIDENT
WILL ADDRESS A PUBLIC MEETING
AT THE FREE TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER,
ON FRIDAY, 14th FEBRUARY.**

Doors open 7 p.m. **ADMISSION FREE.** Chair to be taken by Councillor H. ROSS CLYNE at 8 p.m. **ORGAN RECITAL, 7.10 to 8 p.m.** Tickets may be obtained from the Local Secretary, Mr. F. WARDLE, 5, Woodlands Road, Gorton, Manchester; the Local Chairman, Mr. J. ROSS CLYNE, 4, Rusholme Place, Manchester; or from the General Secretary, John Bull League, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., upon receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Kicking Over the Traces.

We did not think that Mr. Lloyd George would long submit to being muzzled by the Prime Minister, and one has only to read through the lines of his recent declaration upon the Land question to see that he is deliberately kicking over the traces. Fully aware that Mr. Asquith and some of his colleagues are of opinion that the present Government has gone far enough in the way of "social reform," and that there is not the remotest prospect of any big Land scheme being taken in hand before the General Election, he announces his determination to "compel discussion of the subject." We shall soon have further outward and visible signs of the ructions which are going on in the Cabinet.

A Useful Phrase.

By the way, we would suggest to the Chancellor of the Exchequer that there is something more pressing than the abolition of the present Land system, to which he might direct his attention, and to which with equal force he could apply the phrase with which he opened his Land speech—"The emancipation of the Land (i.e., the country) from the paralysing grip of a rusty, effete, and unprofitable system." We refer, of course, to the played out fraud of Party.

An Awkward Axiom.

And Mr. Lloyd George was a little unfortunate in the choice of his phrase that the reform of our Land System "brooks no delay." These are the exact words used by Mr. Asquith a few years ago when pledging himself to accompany the curtailment of the Lords' Veto with the reform of the Second Chamber.

Ulsteria in Excelsis.

It was, of course, not to be expected that the Party press would miss such an opportunity as the little Derry Election for going into hysterics. Just glance at the nauseating nonsense of the rival journals. "Crushing Answer to the House of Lords," says the *Daily News and Leader*, which goes on to explain that in "Derry, as elsewhere throughout Ireland, the cause which calls itself Unionism is declining and dying, while the sentiment of Home Rule is vital and energetic." Let us turn to the *Telegraph*: "Won by Tactics," it says—as though any election was ever won by anything else! And then we are told that the whole explanation of the result is the fact that "a few personal friends of the candidate changed the representation of Ulster." These, however, are but mild examples of how public opinion is manufactured. Let us take two other extracts: The result, the *Express* tells us, is due to the fact that "the halt, and the maimed, and the weak-minded, were brought to the poll,"—as though there were any distinction between the two parties in the steps they took to obtain as many crosses as possible in favour of their candidates. To this insult to the electorate, the *Daily News* stoops to add that the Unionists "polled their interesting supporter who has still to serve his month for cruelty to children." It is disgusting.

An Undignified Retreat.

We have never disguised our opinion that there was not an atom of foundation for the cowardly whispers respecting the integrity of Ministers in regard to the Marconi Contract, and nothing more undignified, and more injurious to the reputation of British journalism, has been witnessed in recent years than the ignominious retreat of Mr. Lawson in the course of his "evidence" before the Select Committee. A fine example of the recklessness with which he had hurled his charges broadcast was supplied by his references to Sir Rufus Isaacs, the date of whose admission to the Cabinet came to him as a surprise, and whose scrupulous personal honour, as everyone who knows him will agree, borders upon scrupulosity.

Just So.

Meanwhile the Inquiry drags wearily on. A second Committee has now been appointed to investigate the more technical aspects of the question. Most people will regret that the composition of the original body should have rendered it incompetent to deal with technical problems.

Another Record Football Skill Competition. See page 209.

Yankee Bluff.

President Taft has again announced his willingness to refer the matter of the Panama Canal Tolls to arbitration. We fail to see that there is anything to arbitrate about. The terms of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty are clear and unequivocal. The Canal was to be open on equal terms to the ships "of all nations." Senator Knox, in his official reply to Sir Edward Grey's representations, affects to understand this provision as meaning all nations except ourselves. That it was never so understood by the British Government is perfectly certain, neither do we believe that it was so intended by the Senate of the United States. Senator Root has already declared in a manly and statesmanlike speech that the treaty meant what it said and that the honour of the United States Government is involved in its recognition. The honour of the British Government is equally involved in insisting that the plain terms of the treaty shall be observed. No Ministry can with impunity sacrifice the vital commercial interests of the nation.

The Cold Shoulder.

We really don't wonder that the head of the King's Navée refused to listen to the pleading that he should order further investigation into the case of the Captain of H.M.S. *Torch*, superseded. Mr. Churchill appears to have inquired into this gallant sea dog sufficiently already. In one period of three months the Captain laid on 123 punishments to a ship's company of 95 men and boys, many of them being illegal, unauthorised, and excessively severe. One of his disciplinary notions consisted of seven days' cells in the refrigerating room for all the world as if the culprits were chunks of Chinese pig or legs of New Zealand mutton—not caring tuppence whether they caught a cold in the head or not. Obviously, an ocean warrior of this type is unfit to be in indisputable charge of men serving His Majesty's ships.

Soft Labour.

It is announced that the Labour Party have approved 31 new candidates for the next General Election. Presumably, they have profited by our repeated warnings of the probable date of the event. Our old friend, Ben Tillett, is to come forward again; whilst among dock labourers, postmen, and carpenters, we notice the names of such horny-handed sons of toil as Dr. Alfred Salter and Dr. Ed. Stancombe. With two doctors and a school teacher and a dozen lay preachers to guard her trade interests, who shall say that Great Britain need fear any industrial foe?

A Plea for Neutral Ladies.

The worst of the Suffragette hysteria is that it removes the last vestiges of chivalry from the breast of the average man. Lloyd George's lambs have already found imitators in London. You may say that militant women must submit to the fortunes of war. But these hostilities are becoming a nuisance to non-combatant ladies who go out shopping or walking and stray into the firing line. It is not pleasant to think that our wives and daughters may suddenly find themselves hustled, pinched, frog-marched or ducked by mischievous mobs.

The Prerogative of Mercy.

Without in any way discussing the merits of recent murder cases, we cannot help feeling that they illustrate the heavy responsibility which is placed upon the Home Secretary in regard to the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of Mercy. We do not think that such a responsibility should rest upon any one man, and are of opinion that any advice tendered to His Majesty in regard to the respite of capital sentences should have behind it the authority of either the whole Cabinet, or of a special body established for the purpose.

Mr. Winkle at the Elysee.

When is a Republic not a Republic? Whether France be one or not, at any rate she is far less democratic than this Kingdom. Instead of royal ceremonies, she has an institution called the Protocol, which binds Presidents with chains and links of iron. One of its most stringent edicts is that the President shall give periodical shooting parties; and the amount of game which shall fall to each gun is minutely specified in accordance with the rank of the sportsman. Thus, 500 pheasants are allotted to diplomatists, 350 to judges of the Court of Appeal, 300 to senators and deputies, and so on. It is all a sort of national ritual, even rabbits contributing to the glory of their fatherland. The unfortunate part of the whole business is that the new President does not shoot. Indeed, he is said to have prejudices against all forms of sanguinary sport. He will have to think of some other kind of entertainment for his distinguished guests.

Mangling Done Here.

A London County Council pointsman has been killed by a motor van while on duty in Holloway Road. This tragedy, following so soon upon the fatal accident to a constable on point-duty at Ludgate Circus, gives cause for reflection. The confusion of street traffic increases daily, and the problem of its effective regulation threatens to baffle all human ingenuity. The incessant stream at places like Ludgate Circus, or the Elephant and Castle, is calculated to unnerve any living pointsman. We trust that the committee now investigating this problem will consider the feasibility of the installation of some system of automatic signalling. Our Metropolitan Police, with all their faults, deserve a better fate than to be mangled by motor buses in the course of their duty.

A Striking Rule.

The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, the General Railway Workers' Union, and the United Pointsmen's and Signalmen's Society, have coalesced into the National Union of Railwaymen, and the new body has issued its draft rules. It is perfectly clear that they have been devised with a view to militant action. The Executive Committee are to have full power to order a strike at their pleasure, and to prolong it as well, while no ballot of members is required. We trust Mr. Sydney Buxton has not pigeon-holed this formidable document without considering effective means of counter action in case of necessity. We have every sympathy with organised Labour, but the general interests of the public must come first.

Young Bears.

All the Chanceries of Europe—the statesmen, the politicians, the quidnuncs, the wiseacres and the scribes—have been wondering what on earth possessed the Young Turks to risk their lives for the forlorn hope of fresh war. Now we learn from a private source that they made huge fortunes over a bear on the Stock Exchanges. That is the advantage of being a secret society.

Mr. Angell and Peace.

Mr. Norman Angell, the author of "The Great Illusion," and a noted advocate of international peace, has left for Germany, where he will conduct an extensive lecturing tour. He hopes to convince his German audiences that war is unnecessary and profitless. We wish him luck, but he must take care of his leg—or it will be well pulled.

Two Distinct Prizes—£6 a Week for Life and £600 in Cash.

Next, Please!

A Newcastle reader sends us a rather startling letter regarding a small colony of Chinamen in that city. They appear to have been located there about a year; but, though few in number, if our correspondent's statement is reliable they have already been very active in espionage. It is, however, somewhat difficult to credit his alarmist reports, as he states that one of the party only "makes any decent shape at speaking English." They are apparently carrying on a laundry business, and our friend regards it as highly suspicious that they should be able to pay a considerable amount of rent and live on the small custom they seem to get. His misgivings, when imparted to an acquaintance, were much strengthened by the reply, "Oh, they are the finest German spies in England. The Germans themselves are always suspected, and they know it—so they get other foreigners to do their work, and the least doubted by Englishmen are the Chinese." Our amateur detective then went off hot upon the trail, and managed to find that the English-speaking Celestial was purchasing in a local shop "big, full-sized page coast line maps." Asked by the shopkeeper when he wanted them, as they were not in stock, the Chinaman replied that "any time would do," but he would "not pay more than 6d. each for three of them." In view of the parsimony of the alleged recipient of German Secret Service money, we are disposed to dismiss the matter—unless, of course, the indifference to time of delivery, and the precision as to price were part of the diplomacy of the wily Chinese.

Judge and Jury.

A strange case occurred at the recent Assizes at Worcester. A man named John Cook was charged with shooting at three farmers, and at the conclusion of the trial the Judge declared himself unable to accept the finding of the jury. After a second period of deliberation the jurymen returned to Court and announced their inability to arrive at a unanimous decision. Thereupon the learned Judge discharged them, and the prisoner was brought up again the next day to be tried once more by a fresh jury. He was declared insane, and will be sent to Broadmoor. The undoubted legal right of a Judge to set aside the verdict of a jury in a proper case is one which has fallen into practical desuetude, and we deprecate its revival—except where the jury consists of aliens. With all its imperfections, trial by jury is a valuable safeguard, and it should be jealously preserved.

Private and Confidential.

Mr. John Smith, of Avenue House, Southampton, was recently charged before the local Bench with certain breaches of the building bye-laws. Mr. Smith was not present at the hearing, but the Magistrates directed that a notice should be sent to him ordering him to comply with the regulations within a week, or a penalty would be imposed. Two days later, however, a local solicitor appeared in Court to make an application on behalf of Mr. Smith, whereupon the Press representatives were informed that the proceedings would be private. Whether there was anything behind this strange procedure or whether it is merely a way they have in the southern port, we cannot say. We hardly like the look of it.

Van Biele—R.I.P.

The tragic but beautiful passing of this aged musician—upon the scene of the life's work that he loved so well—recalls the almost similar death of dear old Sir Henry Irving. What more fitting end could be desired? We must be thankful for the Van Bienes, who help us to dream for awhile, who ease the world's pain, and refresh us for the strife.

Watching and Praying.

Mr. Thomas Holmes tells the following story in the annual report of the Howard Association: "I was conducting an afternoon service in a London prison," he says, "and before me were one thousand men, locked, bolted, and barred in prison, with armed warders to keep guard over them. There they were on their knees singing a vesper:

Lord keep us safe this night,
Secure from all our fears,
May angels guard us while we sleep
Till morning light appears."

Even in the authorities of a convict prison one would have looked for a rudimentary sense of humour. Small wonder men leave prison hardened and depraved, surrounded as they are with this atmosphere of sickening cant.

A Word to Poole.

In 1911 there was a serious epidemic of scarlet fever and diphtheria in Poole, in the course of which some 300 lives were lost. A Local Government Board Inquiry was held, and the Inspector has now issued his report. It is a damaging document, and indicates that the municipal authorities were sadly in fault in many important departments of health administration. "The Medical Officer of Health has not adequately undertaken and supervised the work of making inquiries to ascertain the origin of infection," says the Inspector. Perhaps the members of the Poole Borough Council will bear this in mind when next the official in question applies for an increase in salary.

Home from Home.

We hardly like the action of the Marlborough Street Magistrate in sending two girls of the unfortunate class to prison with hard labour because of their refusal to enter "a Home." The case was a painful one and the young women had undoubtedly committed a breach of the law, but it certainly seems to us that some more lenient treatment would have adequately vindicated the law. "Refuge" or prison is a somewhat fearsome ultimatum to girls accustomed to the garish life of the streets, and we wish the Magistrate had seen his way to the adoption of a course which might have saved the unhappy victims from the associations of prison life. Besides; we know those "Homes"!

Nepotism at Aberavon.

Mr. W. R. Thomas, appointed Assistant Overseer and Poor Rate Collector for Aberavon, is another of those men who ought to thank Providence for his relatives. Among the applicants to the local Town Council for this post were men who had served the district satisfactorily for a large number of years, in similar positions. The job, however, was given to Mr. Thomas, probably not so much because he was a school teacher and has a talent for football, and doesn't know anything whatever about overseeing or rate collecting, but because he is the brother-in-law of one Councillor, the son-in-law of another, and is related to an Alderman. If Mr. Thomas can get his grandfather and grandmother on the Council, he ought to go far.

News from Ohio.

'Way down in Ohio they have a newspaper called the *Cleveland Press*, and this is what it says: "A wealthy American in London bought the house for a performance of one of George Bernard Shaw's plays so he could see it alone. Over in this country a man need buy only one seat to be alone at the performance of a Shaw play." To be candid, there are plays which make a stronger appeal to us; but having now seen Shaw and having seen America, we prefer Shaw.

Have You caught the "Bullets" Craze? See page 218.

Commission and Commissioner.

Mr. J. A. Foote, K.C., has been appointed a Commissioner of Assize, or in other words, a temporary Judge of the King's Bench Division. Commissioners receive enormous fees, and their appointment from time to time involves a very heavy drain on already overburdened taxpayers. But there is a more serious aspect to the question. There will be no real reform of legal administration as long as the Lord Chancellor is empowered to bolster up an archaic and decaying system by emergency appointments of this nature. There are already quite enough judges in the King's Bench Division if each man is compelled to do the work for which he is handsomely paid, and we protest against the practice of appointing eminent and expensive counsel to perform the duties which properly belong to the regular occupants of the Bench. A Commission is to inquire into the whole question of judicial procedure. If we are still alive when it presents its report, we shall look for recommendations condemnatory of this system.

"Private."

Marked "private," a letter has been sent to station-masters by the Superintendent of the L. and S.W. Railway. Here it is: "Dear Sir,—Contributions of Company's Staff to Hospitals and Similar Institutions.—To enable us to realise to what extent hospitals and similar institutions are supported by the staff of this Company, I shall be glad if you will ascertain and let me know what is done by your staff in the way of contributing to institutions of this kind either collectively or through the Hospital Saturday Fund. If possible, the approximate contributions should be stated in figures and the various methods of support shown separately." Are the directors of the Company aware that their Superintendent has sent out this letter, and what is the object of putting workmen and clerks earning a few shillings a week on such a bed of confession?

Home, Sweet Home.

Other things being equal, business, like charity, ought to begin at home. This applies as much to Borough Councils as it does to private individuals. Torquay has recently built a new Town Hall, and a very handsome one it is; but instead of the Town Council remembering, when they want clocks for it, that they have a dozen or more clockmakers in the town, all of them ratepayers, they send away for them—to Leicester or Birmingham; or some such place. If the local tradesmen could not have supplied the clocks it would be different, but we are assured that the Council could have got them without difficulty.

Peace, Perfect Peace!

The President of the Board of Education has declared that "any decision as to the claims of elementary school teachers superannuated prior to April, 1912, for an increase in their pensions, must necessarily be postponed until the Departmental Committee appointed last year has reported." We have no exact information as to the progress made by the said Committee in its arduous investigations, but we suggest that it might be a measure of justice to permit the teachers in question to accept funeral benefit in lieu of pensions.

The Merry-Go-Round.

It appears that Aberdeen shopkeepers and householders are grumbling because the Chief Constable insists on his men going round and round their beats in one direction, meeting in a certain place every quarter of an hour. Seems to be a fine idea for the encouragement of burglars, but if Mr. Anderson answers that, as a matter of fact, they are like angels' visits—few and far between—what say the critics then?

A Sartorial Symposium.

A magazine has been asking a number of "famous" people, "What is a well-dressed man?" The famous Mr. Will Crooks replied that "it is absurd that a man should be compelled to try to dress well on an inadequate income." But surely simplicity does not necessarily imply ugliness. Why, even Mr. Crooks' appearance might be improved if he exchanged his rude tweeds for the cheap and airy garment of an Arab. Or perhaps he would be best dressed in a waterproof lest he should be overtaken by a sudden flood of tears. Miss Gaby Deslys said that "to dress well the real gentleman always wears the clothes which you do not see." Her own are certainly not obtrusive, but we have our doubts about their suitability to the ugly sex. Imagine a classical statue of Dom Manoel, for instance! Danny Maher thought "the man who dresses best is he who elects to have one well-cut suit instead of three indifferently tailored ones." But think of all the pressing and cleaning which this one suit would require!

Mormons in London.

Evidently the Mormons still find London a hospitable place, for letters which reach us from various districts prove that their missionaries are as active as ever. A reader in Lower Clapton complains that they visit his house in his absence and plead with his women folk to "come and hear the true faith"; the said true faith being too risky an undertaking for any woman in Lower Clapton or elsewhere who believes in the doctrine of one husband, one wife. One of the tracts they leave at the door, "No. 6—Rays of Living Light," highly spiritualises the true story about that hoary-headed old impostor, swindler, and harem-keeper, the late Joe Smith to wit, and therefore we don't advise the feminine inhabitants to take their religion from "Rays of Living Light," or from "Deseret," 152, High Road, South Tottenham, whence they appear to emanate.

Cave Canem.

We yield to no man in our affection for the "friend of man," perhaps the only creature who is always cheerful, always ready to forgive. But we are not sure that we should enjoy travelling in the neighbourhood of Dunball, Somerset, where the station-master employs a dog to carry messages to signalmen. The dog would not consciously betray his trust—that goes without saying. Still, he might not always realise the vital necessity of hurry and hustle, at any rate to the same extent as our office-boy. If he met another dog or became interested in a lamp-post or espied a stray piece of offal, he might arrive too late to save the lives of hundreds of passengers. Our advice to the Dunball stationmaster is to use the telephone.

A Silly Hoax.

"How to obtain the Franchise for £3. Ladies should apply within." We do not know whether any Suffragettes were lured "within" by this poster, which was exhibited in a window in Parliament Street. If they were, there would have been ample excuse for breaking this particular window, as the notice was only an advertising dodge to invite women to emigrate to Australia. It is quite possible that they might be allowed to vote out there, but that would be poor consolation when facing starvation. And think of the horrors of a £3 passage to the Antipodes!

T. P. O'Connor on Party.

"There is in political life, especially when seen from the inside, so much disillusion, so much treachery, so much intrigue, that even the most successful of politicians are constantly demanding whether the game is worth the candle."—(In *Reynolds's Newspaper*.)

A Fascinating Pastime with Money in it—"Bullets." See page 218.

Politics and Prayer.

It would be interesting to ascertain the opinions of the leaders of the female Suffrage movement, who recently organised a week of prayer and intercession for "the Cause," on the prompt and decisive collapse of the Franchise Bill. Either their faith in the efficacy of prayer must be rudely shaken, or they must come to the conclusion that the Deity regards them as unfit to exercise the franchise—or at least does not approve of their methods.

For How Long?

"Powers United," reads a contemporary headline. We sincerely hope so, but unfortunately we seem to have heard something like it before, and we know—what we know.

"Mrs. Bull."

Look out for some important changes in connection with this journal at a early date. Mary will appear in an entirely new dress.

The Week's "Chestnut."

NERVOUS OLD LADY (entering a taxi): "Now, driver, you must promise to be very careful."

CHAUFFEUR: "You can rely upon me, mum. It's the first time I've driven a car."

RYMES OF THE TIMES.**THE VOTE.**

The Vote, it is a splendid thing—
I've got one, and should know;—
No end of blessings it can bring
On mortals here below!
When General Elections come,
And politicians beat the drum,
And treat us like a dear old chum,
It sets our hearts aglow!

We vote for him we think the best,
At intervals of years;
We vote—and then must leave the rest—
The glamour disappears!
The Party we have placed in power,
Of Britain's party hacks the flower,
Rich blessings on us start to shower—
Which we receive in tears!

They tax us left, they tax us right,
Of course, all for our good;
They talk and argue day and night,
As politicians should.
They bring in Bills we don't require—
Up go the taxes, ever higher—
And, when we ask them to retire,
Say, "Don't you wish we would?"

Alas, our vote that placed them there,
Their promises to prove,
We find, to our condign despair,
It cannot them remove!
Pain the elective body racks,
Caused by their legislative thwacks—
We made the rod for our own backs,
And have no power to move!

And 'tis this blessed thing, the Vote,
For which the women pine;
(Will Mrs. Pankhurst kindly note
She's welcome quite to mine?)
While years continue still to roll
Between our visits to the poll,
The people can have no control,
Nor check their hacks' design!

Our Football Pension Prizes CAN be Won and we WANT them to be.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.]

For stating of a character in her story, "As Furnished by Pam," published in "The Red Magazine," that: "Where other men blundered or laughed, he, by the grace of his sympathetic UNDERSTANDING, would probably TREAD with KIND, TENDER EYES,"

MISS CHRISTINE JOPE-SLADE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising: "Wanted, heavy WHITE curtains, ANY COLOUR,"

"A 65" (c.o. The Editor, Christian Novels)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in his story, "The Triple Circuit," published in the "London Magazine," that: "A flash of lightning was HERALDED by a growl of thunder,"

MR. BERTRAM CARSTAIRS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "The steamer Auchandaren, outward bound for the River Plate, was SUNK AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Thursday,"

THE SOUTHPORT VISITER
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising, "MIXED PARCEL, MEN, WOMAN, AND CHILDREN, 3s. 6d. HOUSEHOLD, IS,"

"No. 2269" (c.o. The Editor, The Lady)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its description of the parties in the divorce case, Buxton v. Buxton and Cowley: "Clare Florence Mary, DAUGHTER of the late Sir Francis Stapleton, Bart., OF THE SAME AGE AS HIMSELF,"

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "Thirty CATS kept in the central Paris Spain, have VOWED NOT TO MARRY any young men who, prior to their twenty-eighth birthday, have not given proof of their prowess in the bull-ring as amateur toreros,"

IRELAND'S OWN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing the following poster: "YARMOUTH FERRY AT THE ASSIZES,"

THE EASTERN DAILY PRESS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For speaking in the House of Commons (according to the "Daily News") of "a SECONDHAND BOOTMAKER,"

MR. KEIR HARDIE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following statement: "Improving on the story of Mother Hubbard, a Frenchwoman sent her dogs to the butcher's to fetch THEIR OWN BONES,"

THE PARIS CORRESPONDENT OF THE DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same "Biscuit" be forwarded by more than one competitor, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked "BISCUIT" and addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."

A VICIOUS VICAR.

SCOUTMASTER'S SUDDEN SCOOT.

Whenever we hear of a parson suddenly leaving his flock without giving a farewell service and receiving the customary "purse," we suspect that there is something wrong. Such a case was brought to our notice in December last, and when we commenced to make inquiries we soon ascertained that there was something very wrong. The gentleman in question is the Rev. H. Lascelles. For five years he was Vicar of St. John's, Carlton Hill, Brighton. In November last he made a sudden departure, leaving no address behind him. The only intimation conveyed to his flock appeared in a local paper—by the irony of fate below the appropriate words (apparently intended to form part of an advertisement) "PURITY AND QUALITY"!

ST. JOHN'S, CARLTON HILL.
The New Vicar: Brighton.

The Vicar of Brighton has appointed the Rev. Bernard C. Bennet, M.A., Priest-in-charge of St. Matthias, Preston, to the living of St. John's, Carlton Hill, Brighton, through the resignation of the Rev. H. Lascelles.

Mr. Lascelles is about 40 years of age. Before taking up his post at St. John's he was at St. Alban's, Pear Road, Brighton, and previous to that at Worthing. He was Scoutmaster to a troop of Baden-Powell Boy Scouts.

The Charge.

The charge that we place against the late Vicar is that he is a sexual pervert; that he has committed crimes which clearly brought him within the scope of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, and that he has brought disgrace not only upon himself, but upon his boy-victims. Full details of specific acts are in our possession.

It will naturally be asked why he was allowed to escape justice; and to this we have an answer. He was shielded by his superiors in the Church, and allowed to resign and clear out of Brighton. Nor is he the only clergyman who has recently been given a chance to fly in similar circumstances. We could name three others.

Reasons for Exposing Lascelles.

Naturally we must give some reason for attacking the late Vicar and allowing the others to go free. Here it is. There stands on remand at Brighton a man named Richard Jenner, charged with committing acts of indecency. It is alleged that the man got together a number of boys and founded a Scout movement of his own. We need not go into further particulars, but merely state that Mr. Gentle, the Chief Constable, in asking for a remand, remarked, "I wish to make it perfectly clear that this Scout movement has no connection with the excellent Baden-Powell Scout movement." At this point we would emphasise the fact that the Rev. H. Lascelles was Scoutmaster in "the excellent Baden-Powell movement," and we would ask Mr. Gentle if he is ignorant of the late Vicar's villainy?

Now, whatever the merits of the Scout movement, we are bound to say that, as in the case of the Church itself, it contains a large number of degenerate leaders—and they must be hounded out. If the head of the Brighton police cares to make enquiries amongst some of the late Vicar's troop regarding the acts of this clerical beast while in camp last summer, he will find that he was a man more fit for a lunatic asylum, or prison, than to be in charge of boys. One of his junior leaders warned him and threatened to resign if his practices were not stopped.

Lascelles' "effeminacy" led him to excesses which undermined his moral sense and made him a beast. It is high time that the Church and the Scout movement were purged of men of this type.

It is a pity that we cannot write as we would wish about this subject of moral decay. If it were possible to do so, we could give instances of orgies that would move Parliament to action and astound the public. We are faced with a terrible situation, in comparison with which the White Slave Traffic pales into insignificance. In the preface to Mr. Willis's book, "The White Slaves of London," the Bishop of London wrote, "I hope the book will shock London." If the Bishop has a wish to save the nation, let him turn his attention to his own flock. We shall be pleased to place at his disposal the contents of our dossiers.

A Final Word about Lascelles.

Before this brute was allowed to escape the punishment his acts deserved, a sort of informal court of inquiry was held. We have no definite information as to its constitution. Before the Vicar departed, however, he left a letter, to be given to the mother of one of his victims. When she applied for this letter, she received the following document from one of the Vicar's wardens:

MADAM,—The letter to which you refer was given to me not sealed down, and with instructions to hand it to you if I approved of contents, when and if I pleased. I shall be glad to discuss any grievance you may have, but it must be in the presence of my colleague and co-warden Mr. Steers. I am anxious to do nothing without his consent and approval. You must admit that your boy has participated in the same crime as the late Vicar, and I strongly advise you to remove from the parish and take your boy to another neighbourhood where he could have a better chance. Rightly or wrongly, there are many who consider his past actions should debar him from taking an active part in the Church ceremonial, and I must frankly tell you that I think all those who knew what had been going on should pass a long period of probation before assisting the service either as choir boys, acolytes, or servers. The Bishop has rightly punished the Vicar by demanding his resignation, and I think we, as Wardens, can rightly demand the resignation of not only your boy, but of all who have either tacitly or otherwise connived at the crime which has been committed. I do not know what further action you propose to take, but I have no fear of threats, and must warn you against doing anything which may unfortunately do harm to your own son.

Without bringing a charge against anyone, I must say that I am sorry that someone has given information to a scurrilous newspaper. I regret that anyone who has ever worshipped at St. John's should attempt to make money out of the Vicar's shame.

Faithfully yours,

H. KING.

A Word with Churchwarden King.

We have no doubt that the "scurrilous newspaper" referred to is JOHN BULL. To men of King's temperament, a newspaper which accepts responsibility for exposing things which are hushed up by those in authority is "scurrilous," and therefore his definition may be taken as a compliment. In reference, however, to his charge brought against the poor woman of making capital out of her son's misfortune, it is entirely without foundation, and is unworthy of the position he holds. And what are we to think of his autocratic order that she and her son must remove from the parish and cease attending the Church?

We suggest to Mr. King that it is he who should remove, together with all those persons who were responsible for allowing the late Vicar to escape justice. And St. John's Church should be thoroughly fumigated in order to rid it of any possible infection left by its late degenerate spiritual chief.

"A VERY POLITE LETTER-WRITER."**THE SOLDIER BECOMES A LITTLE LESS OILY.**

In November and December last we published some amusing extracts from the letters of a man named J. H. Westgate, a private in the 4th King's Royal Rifles, then stationed in India, to a Thorpe (Norwich) farmer. It will be remembered that Westgate described himself as the winner of a great lottery prize, and suggested that he should purchase the farmer's property, the latter, however, advancing him the money for his homeward passage. We were subsequently asked by another correspondent to believe that the explanation of this peculiar proposition was that the prize—said to be £5,000—although won in 1909, was not payable until the lucky man arrived in this country. An additional inducement held out to the agriculturist was the offer of free board and lodging for the rest of his life, with the loving attentions of a lady glowingly described as "a thorough sound milkmaid." The farmer, however, was not "having any," and his scepticism regarding the whole thing was confirmed when he discovered that—despite the definite announcement of the forthcoming alliance with the lady who would have been so useful on a farm—the fickle soldier was using the Thorpe address for the purpose of advertising for a wife in a distant newspaper.

We have now heard from Westgate—who, however, gives no address beyond "India"—that he has been "placed to a great ill convenience." He continues: "I have been advised to take action, for which I have this mail written respecting the above." With startling sagacity he says: "I have an opinion, that the same statements, notify me to be nothing worse, than a swindler, Imposter, and others such names being a great annoyance to myself, both amongst my friends and relatives." The poor farmer—who, in order to discover the nature of the business for which his house was being used by Westgate, opened one of the letters—is apparently to share the rifleman's wrath, for he goes on: "You should be aware by Law that any person opening Letters addressed to others, prosecution stares them in the face." We are afraid that, unlike the Chinese, we must decline to "tremble and obey" the following behest: "I warn you that unless you place a printed apology in your paper to my Interest also send me a written one by return of Mail I shall take steps at once against you for *exposing me as such*." The words we have italicised are deliciously naive. In view of his demand for a written apology, it is difficult to understand why this enterprising individual has not given us his address. We suggest that the best course for him—in the first instance; at any rate—is to lay before his commanding officer copies of our issues in question.

THE CHOCOLATE CZARS.**GET IN, OR GET OUT!**

Messrs. Cadbury Bros., who make such a point in their advertisements of the announcement that their establishment is "A Factory in a Garden," might also add that the workers in it are just as much serfs as some of the Russian peasantry. Rigid and idiotic rules must be obeyed at Bournville—or else, out you go! And the "order of the boot" at Bournville means that if the worker is living on the estate he must pack up his goods and, as they say in Lancashire, "flit."

By the ukase of the Chocolate Czars there are compulsory swimming classes. Swimming, pleasant and useful though it be in most cases, does not suit the constitution of every one. For instance, a girl named Shuker—who had been in the employ of the firm for over two years—was, with other girls, compelled to bathe in her work time for one hour weekly. One bathing morning, not feeling very well, she asked the works doctor for an exemption from bathing. She was refused, and fearing to lose her situation, she entered the bath. She had to be assisted home, where she had to lie in bed for six months. The firm then generously sent her to a convalescent home, but she did not make any headway, the disease being heart trouble. Messrs. Cadbury repudiate liability. In our view, these swimming baths are part and parcel of the Bournville Bunkum advertising, and Messrs. Cadbury should be made to pay.

26 a Week for Life AND £600 in Cash. The Greatest Prize offer ever made.

A SAUCY REGENT STREET QUACK.**ELEANOR LAWTON'S WRINKLE WRIGGLE.**

A person calling herself Eleanor Lawton, trading as a wrinkle eraser, at 197, Regent Street, claims to remove wrinkles. Here is her method: By some means or other, she obtains the name and address of a girl in business, and promptly sends an account, "To goods, £1 is." The girl, probably not earning more than a few shillings a week, is naturally alarmed, and forthwith writes repudiating the debt. To this the quack replies as follows:—

Your name was given to me by a lady who requested that I should keep her identity secret. This lady told me that she thought you might be interested in my treatment, and I am sure you will fully appreciate my attitude when I tell you that your name will not, under any circumstances, be mentioned in connection with my clients, unless you give me your explicit authority to do so.

A complete treatment was taken from stock and placed upon one side for you, marked No. 5, and with your name; in fact it is still being reserved. In order to keep our stock records in order, it had to be treated temporarily as a sale, therefore the sum of 21s. which I asked you for a full course of my treatment was entered on my books. *The bill issued is merely a matter of form in connection with our accounting system. You will not be expected to pay this amount, unless you wish to accept my treatment; therefore, you are under no obligation to take the treatment unless you want it; you will clearly understand that at the present you cannot owe me any money.*

Eleanor should soon find herself landed for endeavouring to obtain money by false pretences!

TRAMPS ON STRIKE.**BUMBLE AT ASHFORD.**

Few men are tramps for choice—in the winter-time. Eight of these unfortunates entered the casual ward of the West Ashford Workhouse a few days ago. After being "called early" by an unaffectionate official, there were ructions about breakfast. It seems that the usual diet at Ashford is half a pound of bread with cold water. The weather being chilly, eight of the daring spirits asked that the water might be warmed. This luxury was, however, abruptly refused, with the result that the men declined to do their work. The police were called, and the law breakers were subsequently charged before the magistrates. Before sentencing them to fourteen days' hard labour each, Mr. Chas. Igglesden, the chairman of the Bench, is reported to have said:—"You men know that the law of the country must be upheld." Just so! We put it to the Ashford Workhouse authorities that the Local Government Board orders do not mention "water," either hot or cold. The magistrates should look into the matter. What is wanted, both on the Bench and in the workhouse service are a little more tact and commonsense.

"FILM PLOTS AND PLOTTERS."**MR. MUDDLE WISHES TO CLEAR UP THE MESS.**

With reference to our paragraph last week under this heading, we have received a visit from Mr. Muddle, who informs us that the last advertisement of "Picture Plays and How to Write Them," appeared in October, and that he was in regular attendance at 128, Jermyn Street, until December, when he had to devote himself entirely to other business. He admits that it was imprudent to have then ceased all communication with the landlord of the premises without leaving him an address, but assures us that he was quite convinced that any letters which arrived subsequently would have been returned at once to the postal authorities. As regards the rent, he confirms our statement that he was a sub-tenant, and tells us that the person to whom he was directly responsible entered into an agreement with him by which this was set off against a claim for a larger amount. We should be glad to hear from anyone who may have paid for a copy of the book and has not had it or the return of his postal order from the Dead Letter Office, in order that we may inform Mr. Muddle and thus give him an opportunity of putting the matter straight.

A FORTUNE FOR A PENNY.

GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S—HEALTHY SKILL COMPETITION FOR THE PEOPLE.

The record Football Competitions inaugurated by JOHN BULL possess the great merit of being a healthy, stimulating, and at the same time lucrative recreation. Competitors are induced to take an intelligent interest in the manly sport of football, and by watching the play of the various clubs, and studying the form of the players, secure a chance of reaping a reward which will make them independent for life.

So far as our part in the scheme is concerned, there is no cant. Although it involves us in a very heavy financial obligation, we gleefully accept it, as a matter of *Business*. In plain language, it is an *Advertising Scheme*. Instead of spending, as we have been in the habit of doing, many thousands of pounds upon public hoardings, we propose to distribute the money amongst our own readers.

As with our famous "Bullets" Competition, everything is straight and simple. We offer a prize for the forecast of the results of twenty matches, but we pay over the money if only one match is played, and the result is correctly given. If we made stipulations about abandoned games, and all the rest of it, we should be introducing the principle of a lottery into the Competition. Nobody can foretell the weather—especially in England! And here let us clear up a silly misconception of a section of the silly Press. One of our contemporaries—never very celebrated as a financial authority—has been calculating that the odds against giving the correct results of twenty matches are four thousand millions to one. Was ever greater piffle written? Let it be remembered that we eliminate goals altogether and that all our readers have to do is to indicate in each match the winning team. Therefore, the odds against naming the full results are reduced to quite reasonable proportions. But, quite apart from this fact, our milk-and-watery contemporary forgets that we give a large sum of money to the competitor who gets *nearest* to the full score. And even its addled intellect must see that *somebody* must get that prize.

Our Second Competition.

Our first competition closes this week, and we hope to announce the result in our issue for the week ending February 22nd. We hope, too, that one of our competitors will gain the great prize of £5 a week for life. In any case, some lucky reader will get £500. and, as will be seen below, the money is waiting in the bank for him. There is no nonsense about *our* Competitions. But now about the new one. This time it is to be *£6 per week for life*, AND—note the word, *and*, not OR—£600, instead of £500, in any event, to the runner-up. That is to say, we give *two* prizes, instead of one, so that even if we have to pay the £6 per week for life, we also pay the reader who sends in the next best

coupon the substantial sum of £600 cash down; and *that*, also, it will be seen, is in the bank, ready to be paid out. Never had the *sporting public* a better or a healthier form of stimulating recreation.

Pension Guaranteed.

Now as to the Pension. Until we know the age of the winner it is impossible to say what amount will be required to ensure the Pension, but we are not to be beaten. We have, at considerable expense, succeeded in getting the due payment of the Pension

GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S,
the famous underwriters, whose Policies up
to any amount are accepted throughout the
world.

One word to those cranks and faddists who object to our competition on the ground that it encourages gambling. How little they understand the matter is shown by their fantastic calculations of the odds. They eliminate entirely, the element of Form—having none of their own! Let us illustrate the point for their benefit. Here is a table of five imaginary events. What are the odds against anyone being able to foretell the results of all of them? The answer is a thousand to one *on*. The *Daily News* would say one thousand millions to one *against*!

Jack Johnson v. Gunner Moir.

Stevenson v. the Marker at the "Pig and Whistle."

Springboks v. Dulwich Saracens.

Yorkshire v. Battersea Park.

Dorando v. Spendlove.

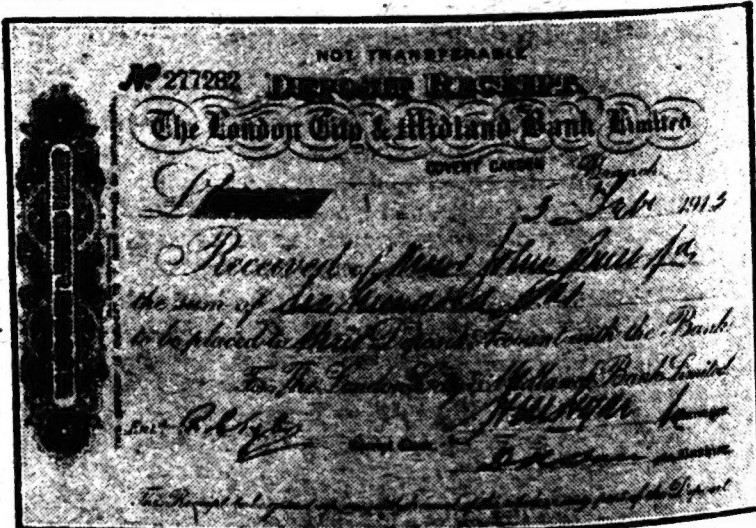
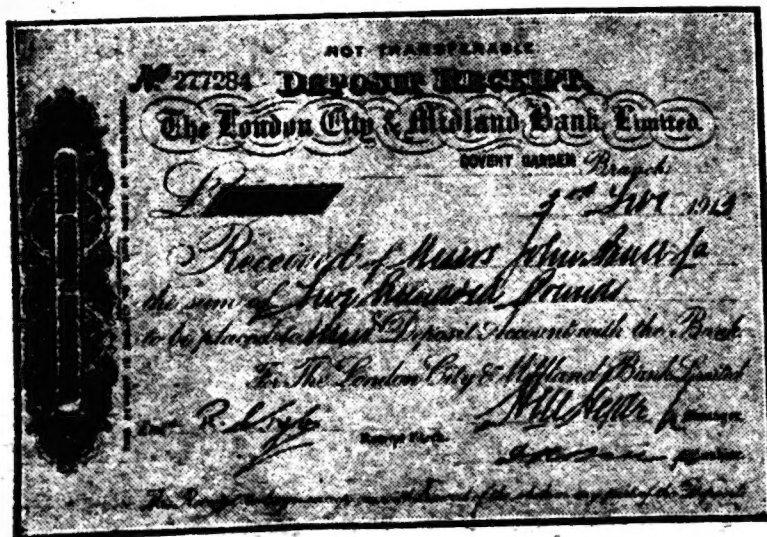
This, of course, is an extreme example, but the principle remains the same—and that is just where the skill and judgment, and excitement, come in; and, at the same time, where the pure gambling element disappears.

Money Lodged in Bank.

In order that there may be no possible doubt about the big cash prizes, which *must in any event be won*, we have deposited the *two* amounts in separate accounts with our bankers, whose receipts we reproduce below :

As to the checking of the coupons, we can assure all competitors that, in consequence of our carefully-thought-out and elaborate arrangements, fraud is rendered absolutely impossible. Nor is there the least danger of a correct forecast being overlooked,

Our readers can rely on it that in every detail our Football Competition is better conducted than that of any other paper.



OH, FOR A BUSINESS POLICE!

HOW A SECOND SHERLOCK HOLMES WAS REWARDED.

Although we have already dealt at some length with the extraordinary complaint of a Blackpool man regarding the dilatoriness of the local police in arresting, on his information, a criminal who had sought refuge there, after flying from Canada with stolen property valued at £5,000, our readers will doubtless be interested to learn of further developments. Believing in May last that the thief—a man named David Oppenheim—was in hiding at Blackpool, a cute aspirant for detective honours—to say nothing of remuneration—got in touch with the man's relatives, in the end confirming his suspicions. He then made enquiries at Manchester and found that the thief was wanted there also, as a fraudulent debtor. The sleuth-hound, now glued to the scent, followed his quarry to all manner of places—including Blackpool races, where he saw him with ill-gotten gains to the value of £4,500. The amateur detective informed the Chief Constable of Blackpool of these facts, giving him also a written record of the man's career; but that official refused to act, on the ground that he had no warrant, though, in his own words, all the informer stipulated was "that if there was any reward he was to get it to cover his expenses." The persevering Nemesis, whose overtaking of his prey was thus impeded, then wrote to the Chief Constable at Vancouver, asking if there was any reward. The authorities in the new country cabled: "10 per cent reward offered on recovery of all money recovered from Oppenheim. Inform Scotland Yard." The amateur detective therefore wrote to the "Yard," meantime keeping his man in sight.

Selling his Kinsman into Servitude.

It is an interesting and certainly illuminating commentary upon the ethics of thief-taking to learn that our correspondent at this period ascertained that one of the criminal's kinsmen was offering to sell the absconding debtor to his creditors by volunteering to tell them his address, so that they might call upon him while he had this large sum of money in his possession and induce him to settle their claims. This affectionate relative's terms were to be 30 per cent. of the money restored! Sherlock Holmes, secundus, however, would have none of this—he interviewed a solicitor's clerk who came after a debt, and told him that he was actually blackmailing a thief—the result of his lecture being that the limb of the law left in a hurry.

The modern imitator of Joseph's Brethren then suggested joining forces with the faithful sleuth-hound and "bleeding" the wanted man for "a thousand" to keep their mouths shut—an offer which was promptly reported to the police. In the end, after many delays, the authorities were induced to act, and our correspondent personally pointed out the criminal. On being searched, about £100 only of the stolen money was found on the man—who, it may be convenient to mention here, was subsequently tried and sentenced to five years' penal servitude. Disappointed of his expected reward, the amateur detective sniffed round again and discovered that the wife of the would-be betrayer was in possession of £3,000 worth of diamonds, while that worthy himself was expressing his delight at the arrest of his relative and saying that the proceeds of the robbery were in his spouse's possession. The Blackpool police were again approached, but when they called at the address of the talkative individual he was not at home, and there the matter was apparently allowed to rest sufficiently long to enable the booty to be carried off.

Virtue its Own Reward.

The story of the further efforts made by this natural detective is too long to tell; suffice it to say that he traced the booty to Weymouth and thence to Bath, and by a subterfuge induced the person who had absconded with it to return to Blackpool. He again decamped, but our up-to-date Javert seemed to know his very thoughts, for he informed the authorities of the time of departure of the train and urged that the thief should be detained until the Scotland Yard man, then on his way, arrived. The appeal was, however, ignored—with the result that this large sum of money was lost entirely to its rightful owners, while the five weeks' hard work of the amateur detective—to say nothing of his expenses—went practically unrewarded, as he received only £10 ss. 6d.

"ARE YOU LONELY?"

ANOTHER COCK AND HEN CORRESPONDENCE CLUB.

Our recent paragraph, under the above heading, regarding the peculiar concern known as the Progress Society, induced a correspondent to give us a little personal experience. Noticing in a weekly journal, ostensibly devoted to cheap mental culture, a feature consisting of appeals for friendship and correspondence between men and women who profess to be leading lonely lives, he some time ago, out of curiosity, answered one of them, said to emanate from a lady who was anxious for correspondence on philosophy, or religion, or literature—our friend's tastes being in this somewhat unexciting direction. Imagine his surprise on receiving a letter from Mr. Sidney J. Stone, the Secretary of a body styling itself the Anonymity Club, of 11, Walton Buildings, Calvert Avenue, London, N.E., stating that the lady who advertised, having become a member, had handed them his letter, and suggesting that the would-be essayist on the exalted subjects mentioned should follow the course she had taken by also enrolling himself—of course paying a subscription.

Our correspondent was naturally indignant that his confidential communication should have been passed along to a third party for the purpose of being turned to this commercial use. Our friend, as will have been gathered, is of a literary turn of mind, and we agree with him that he was hardly likely to gain much from belonging to a body the Secretary of which states that it is "inaugerated" for such vague purposes as the "interchange of ideas, languages, thoughts and topics of all interests," but that "no responsibility can be accepted from any undesirable correspondence reaching a member." Similar advertisements are still appearing in the journal. Our correspondent asks: "Are these advertisements genuine, or is the whole thing worked by a syndicate, which supplies not only the 'lonely' advertisements themselves, but also the 'unconventional' correspondence to those who reply to these announcements when the proper financial basis has been secured?" We wonder.

COLD CHARITY.

A "TITANIC" COMMITTEE AND ITS TRUST.

That charity is cold is a very widespread and, unfortunately, justifiable opinion, but we venture to think that the great mass of the people who subscribed to the funds raised for the relief of the sufferers by the *Titanic* disaster did so in the hope that the administration of this particular beneficence would be the exception which proved the rule. We are afraid, however, that disillusionment will probably befall the donors who make intelligent enquires into the distribution of the funds. We have before us several distressing cases which are being dealt with in a most niggardly manner by the committees. Owing, however, to the fact that desperate last appeals to the humanity of the officials are pending, we refrain from giving any specific instance beyond the following:—In the Southampton district are residing a poor couple who were entirely dependent for their support upon the earnings of a relative (the unfortunate man, though under 50 years of age, being partly paralysed and unable to do anything, therefore, for the support of his wife and himself) who unhappily perished in the great disaster. The secretary of the Southampton Area Fund has sent the poor man a letter in cold type—cold in more than one sense of the term—informing him that their case has been considered with a view to relief from the permanent fund, and that the Mansion House Committee have authorised the payment of 3s. a week, which dole "may be permanently or temporarily withdrawn by the Mansion House Committee at any time at their discretion." The communication goes on to say that "the relief will be automatically terminated in the case of males aged under fifty at the end of three years." It is not clear whether any payment will then be made to the wife, but, in view of the spirit of the document, we must confess we doubt it. And how many hundreds of thousands did the public subscribe to the Funds?

"Bullets" Prizes to the Value of £1,655 offered this week.

MRS. GRUNDY AND OPEN SPACES.**SECRET INQUIRY OF MANCHESTER PARKS COMMITTEE EXPOSED.**

BY THEODORE DAHLB.

[We deal with this matter at some length, as the arguments and evidence thought sufficient by the Manchester authorities to justify the closing of the open space in question are such as could be adduced in regard to every park and common situated in the neighbourhood of a teeming population.]

The preposterous decision of the Manchester City Council to close the public park of Boggart Hole Clough on the recommendation of the Parks Committee has naturally aroused the strongest indignation and opposition in the district.

Never possibly was there an investigation less judicial or a tribunal less competent to weigh and measure the evidence, as apart from hearsay. Councillor Johnston, who has lived in the neighbourhood of the Clough for many years and was the first witness called, said that though he had been using the Clough continuously he had never seen any acts of immorality. The Rev. W. S. Battersby, who has lived there for twelve years, stated that though he had complained of the blatant courtship—"not local to Blackley"—which goes on in the Clough, for the whole of the time, coming through at all hours of the night, he had not seen any of "this immorality that is so much talked about." Alderman Ward appeared to say he knew nothing about the alleged immorality at all, but other people had told him they had seen it. Councillor Bennett, who also lives on the edge of the Clough and has known it all his life, said he had never actually seen anything immoral himself, though he went through the Clough early and late. The worst he could say was that "there is a lot of rough horseplay and rough courtship," and that the Clough is "one of those places I would not like my own daughter to be walking through late at night." So far, then, the case for the closing of the Clough is not very impressive. One might say of a thousand streets, let alone parks and commons, in one place or another, that one would not like one's daughter to be in them late at night.

Tattersall's Ring Fence.

Now we come to the statements of a Mr. Tattersall, who lives on the opposite side of the Clough to Councillor Johnston, but whose position in Manchester is not disclosed. He seems to regard the Clough in the light of a man who, having a house near a public park through which run public thoroughfares, expects all the privacy and quiet and comfort of a private demesne. This gentleman has seen young girls and young men—mostly cotton operatives, mark you—going in and coming out of the Clough late on Saturday and Sunday nights. He has seen young men and young women sitting on forms. But it all came to the same chapter of the same old story in the end, "I have not actually seen any immorality going on." And now we probably come to the leading spirit, or one of the leading spirits, in this secret inquiry which has led to the closing of the Clough, to wit, the Curate-in-Charge of St. Peter's. He is a comparatively new comer to the district. And this is how the gentleman started: "Before I went to Blackley I was told a great deal about the Clough." This was so much the note of his "evidence" all through that the Deputy Town Clerk interrupted him. "It is very desirable, if possible," said the Deputy, "that you should give facts within your own knowledge"; an interruption which brought the naive confession, "Of course, that takes some of my evidence away." "There is plenty left, however," he added.

Shocking the Curate.

What was the curate's plenty? Obviously statements, most of them, coloured by prejudice and imagination. "Later," he said, "I went through the Charlestown entrance. There was talking behind one of the bushes; a boy and girl came out of a bush, and they were behaving in a disorderly manner. A second couple came out of the bush, and the first couple said, 'What a very long time you have been about it.' Further down the road there were

five or six couples all mixed up. Coming up in the trams at night one sees them (couples) constantly coming up. . . . I can quite believe some of them are ordinary lovers, but some were absolutely of the immoral kind. . . . I was coming home a very wet Sunday night about ten o'clock and I put my head inside the gate, and there were two girls of about 15 years of age clasped tightly in two young men's arms. I cannot say there was anything beyond that." Then came Father Hayes, who after a great deal of general talk about his intimate relations with his congregation, made this astonishing statement, "I have no personal evidence to offer this meeting because I do not go to the Clough at nights. I have some respect for my reputation." Did ever anybody hear such testimony cited to justify the filching of public rights of access to a convenient and long-used way across a park?

"Vigilance" Spies.

We have said that the Rev. Mr. Wilson is one of the leading spirits in this agitation for the closing of the park. He is ably supported by men we do not hesitate to describe as the official hedge-spies of the local Vigilance Society. We know these Vigilance Societies! Mr. Roberts stated that he had been sent by his prying chiefs to take observations. In his first "observations" he was alone, on a Friday night. He saw three or four couples enter the Clough from a motor car. Entering down the main avenue he saw young men and young women in groups. "They were pulling each other about, horse play and bad language," and he added this astounding statement—not the first or the last of the kind in this not less astounding "inquiry"—"Practically all the forms were occupied by two or three couples. I could not say they were actually in the act of immorality, but they were on the verge of it." Apparently the Secretary of the Vigilance Society, Mr. Jones Davies, was not quite satisfied with the results of observation No. 1, so he accompanied Mr. Roberts later. They found three couples lying down on the grass behind the bushes. Says he: "We could not get near enough . . . but we came to the conclusion at once that immorality was taking place." This is the first bit of positive evidence that would be worth cross-examination in a police court. He instanced one other—a girl who was with a young fellow, and who "immediately jumped back and straightened her dress."

Unpleasant Truths for Killjoys.

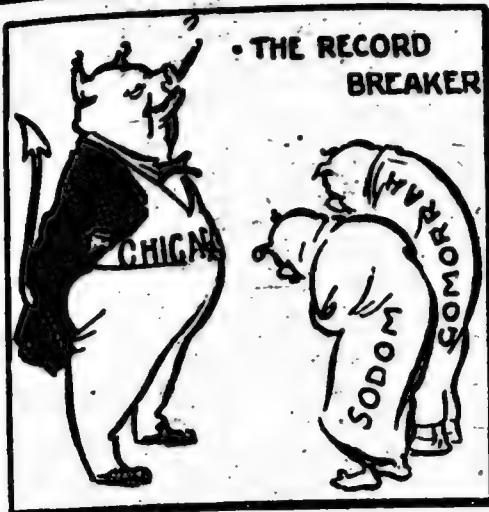
Following, appeared Mr. Owen, from the Sunday-School Union, who spoke of having actually seen three cases of immorality in the top-end of the Clough. Another time, a girl sitting with a young man, said, "Don't, it's Mr. Owen." The statement of the head gardener, to which one would attach more importance if he had reported his experiences before to the Committee, shortly amounted to evidence of immorality wholesale. Then we have these silly questions from Alderman Harrop, the Chairman, and the answers that an under-gardener would naturally give to them. Chairman: "And when you have gone home, knowing this was going on, you have not felt very happy?" Sounds like a Sunday-school superintendent questioning the best boy in his class, does it not? And mentioning Sunday-school reminds us of the gardener's remark that "On Sundays they are mostly the same lot of girls who come in, and it is worse after the chapels and churches loose." This so upset Councillor Mitchell that he asked, "You do not suggest it is those from the chapels and churches?" Answer: "They are as bad as the others." "How do you know?" Answer: "Because I know them personally!"

We have no space for the evidence of the parks superintendent, but it is generally corroborative of the statements of the gardeners. As naturally it would be. For probably the bed-rock truth of it all, apart from the Vigilance Society's hedge-creepers and Curates-in-Charge, is that what goes on in Boggart Hole Clough is what goes on in every open space in every town and city in the kingdom. Even the most innocent canoodling is not done in the light of day, and certainly the vicious kind is not done amid such crowds as are said to line the main avenue on the seats in Boggart Hole Clough. The Watch Committee should adequately police the place, and the Parks Committee should adequately light it. To close the Clough to pedestrians is not only to inflict a public affront, but to perpetrate a public injustice by destroying a public right.

Our Football Prizes are Meant to be Won. Abandoned Matches make no Difference.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

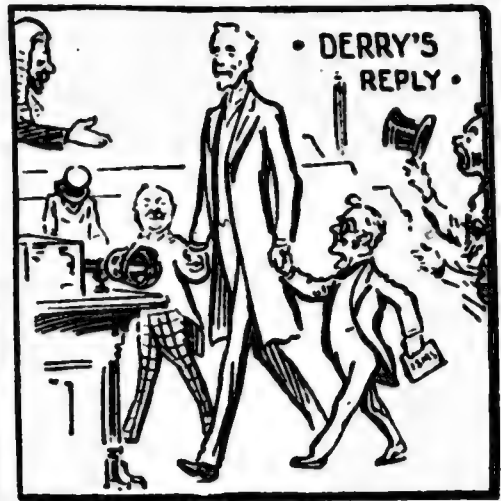
BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."



Chicago's wickedness, we're told,
Is so extremely great
It beats those naughty towns of old
And merits a worse fate.



The angry Peers the Home Rule Bill
Kick from their door in vain—
For in a week or two it will
Come back to them again.



The Ulster Orangemen, we hear,
Are feeling far from merry,
Because their fond hopes disappear
With their defeat at Derry.



The dangers of our streets increase,
For, as above is shown,
The squeegee man who shoves the grease
May haply bring us down.



The patient back of Jerry M.,
A gee not easily matched,
Is given weights it can't sustain,
Which cause it to be scratched.



Mad suffragettes attack the greens,
Which makes the golfers blue;
They'll win no franchise by such means—
A caddish thing to do!

ACTES' ACTIVITIES.

A PERNICIOUS FIRM OF CHILD-FRIGHTENERS.

A Taunton lad, aged 15, a short time before Christmas, replied to an advertisement of Actes and Co., Ltd., 85, Fleet Street, which offered a present to anyone selling twelve postcards at a penny each. The boy, however, received in response to his application six dozen cards, some similar to those sold in local shops at four a penny. He managed to dispose of 26, and on 6th January returned the unsold balance with the 2s. 2d., less 2½d. postage. Four days later he received the "present"—a tinsel pin, value under 1d., though boldly labelled "1s. 6d." On the 16th he got a printed postcard, headed "Second Notice," asserting that some time before they had sent him a reminder that they had not received payment for the cards, and threatening that if he did not remit by return of post the matter would be placed in the hands of their solicitor without further notice. This is not the first time we have had complaints of the bullying of innocent persons—usually children, as Actes, for reasons which are obvious, apparently prefer to do their peculiar business with the young and inexperienced. It is a highly reprehensible trade, and one which has in the past led even to the suicide of a poor boy so terrorised. We would suggest that, in this case, the father should apply to the magistrates for process against Actes for criminal libel—nothing but drastic measures will stop people capable of such tricks.

A SLOW MAIL ORDER HOUSE.

PICKING A HOLE IN A HOLE-PROOF HOSE FIRM.

A Nottingham reader—who apparently disagrees with the adage about carrying coals to Newcastle—in October last ordered some "hole-proof hose" from Messrs. Vaughan and Heather, "Business-by-Post Experts," who have seemingly christened their establishment "The Mail Order House, Brighton," paying the price (35s.) at the time. Up to within a few days ago he had not, however, received the goods or the return of his money, though on November 1st the firm wrote regretting the delay and excusing themselves for non-delivery on the plea that, owing to the enormous demand, they were "somewhat overwhelmed," adding: "However, we are working hard and hope to send your order in a few days." After waiting patiently for another three weeks, the customer communicated with the Chief Constable at Brighton, who wrote on November 23rd that the "firm is believed to be genuine, but overwhelmed with orders. You will probably receive the goods in a few days." The Nottingham man waited another fortnight but, as he had not then received the articles or money, wrote the Chief Constable again—but has not been favoured with another reply. As Messrs. Vaughan & Heather are apparently still carrying on an extensive advertising campaign, we suggest that it would be preferable for them to draw in their horns a little, and devote their energies to clearing up arrears of unexecuted orders or returning the money.

Another Reccord Football Skill Competition. See page 209.

A LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL BLUNDER.**HOW A BABY WENT "OUT INTO THE NIGHT" ALONE.**

A distressed father tells us the following pathetic story regarding the fate of a four-year-old son of his. The parents live nearly opposite the Royal Southern Hospital, Hill Street, Toxteth Park, Liverpool, and at 5 a.m. on December 10th last the child was taken by his mother to that institution, suffering from what was thought to be a severe cold. She asked the nurse to let her know at once if any change for the worse took place, which was naturally promised. At 10 a.m. the same day the anxious mother ran over the road to the hospital, to enquire how her boy was getting on. After giving his full Christian and surnames—the latter a somewhat uncommon one—and stating the time of his admittance, she was informed that he was progressing favourably. However, two hours later an official came across with the message that the Sister in charge of the child's ward wanted to speak to the parents, and when they arrived at the institution they were inexpressibly grieved and shocked to hear that the boy was dead. They naturally asked why they had not been called for earlier, and were told that a messenger had been sent for them about 9 a.m., but he had gone to the wrong address—and summoned the parents of another child. The doctor who treated the case added that he really thought it was better that they had not seen the baby alive, because the poor little fellow had died in great agony. It appeared that at 10 a.m. it had been necessary to operate, and though the child seemed to rally temporarily, he sank again, and within an hour passed away. Notwithstanding that there was no time to administer chloroform, the doctor asserted that the operation was a success and repelled the suggestion that the boy had really died from the shock.

The Risk of Infection.

Next day, the bereaved father was given a death certificate, placed in a sealed envelope, which he was directed to hand to the Registrar, being told that he could take the body away at any time. The Registrar, in exchange, handed the father two other certificates. These latter he gave to the undertaker, who observed that the child had died from diphtheria and cardiac failure, and that the death being from an infectious disease, he was surprised not to find on one of the documents a certain mark indicating that a hearse would be required. In the absence of this mark, however, the father could save expense by engaging a brougham.

Some Pertinent Questions.

Now, there are several points in this case which appear to call for explanation. As a messenger was sent out at 9 a.m., the baby must have taken a serious turn for the worse before then; why, then, did the officials—after receiving the full name and description—inform the poor mother at 10 a.m. (at which hour it was subsequently stated an urgent operation was performed) that he was progressing favourably? And, by the way, imagine the feelings of the other poor mother, needlessly called to what she was led to believe was the death-bed of her child! Again, it seems extraordinary that so long a period as three hours should have elapsed between the sending out of the first messenger and the visit of the head porter to the correct address, as the arrival at the institution of the wrong woman must have immediately brought the blunder home to the minds of the officials. Surely, too, the father should not have had to wait, in such a way, before being made acquainted with the cause of death. A final point, and one which also is certainly open to adverse comment, is that the body of anyone dying from diphtheria should have been allowed to be removed home, where the accommodation is usually insufficient to prevent danger to others—in this case there were no fewer than five other children in the house, to say nothing of the father and mother, while the neighbours naturally came, requesting permission to see the poor little body. Unfortunately, nothing the parents can now say or do can bring back the life so precious to them, but they have sent us a full statement of the case, in the hope that their sad experience may be the means of awakening the authorities of the Royal Southern Hospital to the need of reform in their methods of administration.

MORE WINDOW-SMASHING.**THE SIN OF THE CHILD VISITED UPON THE FATHER.**

Although the Suffragettes, as everyone knows, commit their depredations upon the plate-glass of traders with "malice aforethought," and sympathy towards those who suffer the penalty of the law for doing so is restricted practically to believers in the most advanced methods of supporting women's enfranchisement, we venture to think that—should the statements in the following paragraph be correct—a far more widespread sympathy will be extended. We have received a peculiar appeal from that well-known Scottish summer resort, Ballater. Though we do not vouch for it, we are assured that the opinion it expresses is widespread, and we certainly think that the matter requires investigation. The setting up of a police court in Ballater was, we are informed, bitterly opposed by a section of the inhabitants, on the ground that it would spoil the village's attractions for visitors—the result being the very curious compromise with the local press that the proceedings at the court should not be reported. Such an arrangement is, of course, bound to result in deplorable incidents, and we are therefore not astonished to hear that the court's decisions are vehemently criticised in the limited circle to which they are known. The latest happening to give rise to such hostile comment is, we are assured, in regard to a boy of ten, charged with smashing two panes of plate-glass in a shop-window, by running into it with a handcart. Though it appears very likely that this was a sheer accident, the boy was found guilty, and his father—a railway-man—was sentenced to pay a fine of £1, or, in default, suffer ten days' imprisonment. The man was naturally highly indignant and refused to pay. Thereupon he was informed that a month would be granted in which to find the money. If the facts be as alleged, we are not surprised to hear that extraordinary interest is being taken locally in what is looked upon as a gross miscarriage of justice, and speculation is rife as to what will happen at the expiration—on February 13th—of the period of grace, the father being fully determined not to pay.

BLAKE'S BUNK-UM.**FLIGHT OF THE SWINDLING SOLUTION EXPERT.**

Complaints regarding the self-styled "solution experts," Blake and Co., of 51, Gurney Street, Walworth, still reach us. We are afraid, however, that those who disregarded our warning and confided their money to the ignorant impostor have little chance of recovering it. A few days ago Blake sent the following communication to a person who had demanded the share of the amount stated to have been actually won on behalf of clients:—

I am sorry having to inform you that my method has proven an utter failure, so have decided in the interests of us both to discontinue working same. Of course it was a speculation from the first and we are all liable to make mistakes and I have delayed writing like this week after week in the hopes that it would win at least one Premier for us. I have thoroughly thought the matter out and wish to help you in some way for the trouble you have been put to and have made arrangements with the Company so that you will not be a loser in any way as they will send you some efforts *that must win*. My proposition is this, the Company will give you credit for 15s. as cash which entitles you to receive efforts (which they have promised me will be specially picked ones) in accordance with prospectus enclosed until you have won £20, also they will send you the Regina Method free. Now I am sure you will agree that this is a fair offer, as you will receive picked efforts and it will not be a great while before you have won the £20.

In view of the repeated statements in Blake's letters that people sending him money are "absolutely certain" of winning, this needed no characterisation. The 15s. worth of efforts of his Company—an unlimited concern which, to all appearance, consisted merely of himself—were unlikely to be of more value than the "utter failures" he had already sent. The value of his "Regina Method" our readers already know. Further comment is unnecessary, as the postal authorities are now returning Blake's letters to the senders—marked "Gone away."

£350 just for Two or Three Words. See "Bullets" page 218.

What Do You Know About Business?

An article of far-reaching importance to all who are engaged in business.
Useful alike to the Shop Assistant, the Warehouseman, the Clerk, the Salesman,
the Traveller, the Manager, or the Proprietor of any Business, large or small.

To the thoughtless, the easy-going, or the very young man this question may at first glance seem an insult.

Such a one would answer, in an off-handed sort of way: "Why, I am *in* Business—I am a Business man. I know all about Business—or I ought to do so."

Aye, there's the rub! He *ought to do*. But does he?

Let me put the same question to you.

How much do *you* know about Business? Unless you are a rare and brilliant exception—you will probably own after a mortifying self examination, that it is precious little indeed of sound Business knowledge that you really know—confidently and surely enough to bank on.

Yet without this Business knowledge your chances of doing well for yourself in the business world are very poor ones indeed. With it, there is

No Position You Cannot Aspire To.

It is only necessary to look around, to read the daily papers, to listen to the gossip of the day, to realise that in no department of life into which intelligent men put sound knowledge and ability and "sticking in" qualities are the rewards so sure, so soon realised, and so lasting as in the great and increasingly-important world of Business.

Now what do *you* know about Business?

For instance, do you understand Book-keeping thoroughly? Could you draw up a balance-sheet? Do you understand exactly how the financial position of a tradesman or a firm is determined from his books? Do you understand a profit and loss account? Do you know when recovery of book debts is barred?

Do you know the law as it specially affects your own particular trade, business or calling? Do you understand the manufacturing of the goods you are concerned with or that the firm that employs you is concerned with? Do you know anything at all about manufacturing? Do you know how to figure depreciations? How to check leakage? Do you understand time-keeping systems?

You do not? Not thoroughly and authoritatively? Yet

These Things are Business Knowledge.

Do you know much about the Income Tax? Do you know Company Law? Do you know the cost of the formation of a Company? The methods of amalgamation? Do you understand the conversion of shares into stock? Do you understand Compulsory Winding-up? Do you know all about County Court Business, judgments, etc.?

Do you understand clearly what a Bankruptcy definition is? Or what the goodwill of a business really means? Do you know about cheques and banking bills of all sorts? Do you understand the difference between Insurance and Assurance?

Do you know how to start a Business? How to secure its credit, and to buy its equipment? How to organise its departments, build up its reputation, collect its debts, rake in its profits?

Do you know anything about advertising? Would you know how to engineer separately a national advertising appeal and a local appeal?

Yet these matters are Business Knowledge. And if you want to make money in business you must either know them or know where you can get authoritative and complete and up-to-date information concerning them and concerning the thousand and one points of doubt or difficulty that beset the business man in the course of his business day.

Now what are you to do?

You must get the "Business Encyclopædia."

You cannot do without it, whether you are an ambitious young man on the threshold of your commercial life or a mature business man who dreads that he may be crowded out of the Business fight owing to the present-day stress of competition. If you are young the use of the "Business Encyclopædia" makes you proficient in

The Knowledge that is Your Stock-in-Trade.

If you are older, its use gives you the confidence founded on sound information, to enable you to act on your own business ideas.

It contains hundreds of business articles written by the most successful Business men of the day. Amongst these are: Richard Burbidge (Managing-Director Harrod's Stores), S. F. Edge (the well-known Motor Expert), A. W. Gamage, John Lawrie (Managing-Director William Whiteley, Ltd.), Sir Joseph Lyons, H. G. Selfridge, J. H. Rosenthal (Managing-Director Babcock and Wilcox, Ltd.), Wareham Smith (Advertisement Director of the *Daily Mail*), and many others equally successful.

The "Business Encyclopædia" deals with nothing but business, but it treats of this important subject fully and completely and authoritatively.

TWO OPINIONS:

Messrs. J. S. FRY & SONS, Ltd., Bristol, write:

"The volumes have already proved of great use to us, and we would not be without them on any account. We strongly advise all commercial men to purchase the work."

SIR THOMAS DEWAR writes:

"I must congratulate you upon the production of such an excellent work. The volumes are full of information, and I feel sure that before long they will be found to be a necessity in every commercial house. Now that we see the 'Encyclopædia,' the marvel is that such a work has not been thought of in this country before."

A FREE BOOK.

The Publishers have compiled a handsomely illustrated book—which will be sent to you **FREE**. It gives the names of the business articles written above, and it tells you all about the "Business Encyclopædia," and how it can be obtained for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance to be paid by small monthly payments.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,

54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, a copy of the book describing the "Business Encyclopædia," and particulars of your offer to deliver the complete work for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only.

Name
(Send this Form or a postcard.)

Address

.....

BELFAST'S BET DODGER.

GRAY'S HONOUR GOING. GOING—GONE!

We have searched in vain in the columns of the Belfast papers for a report of the extraordinary case in which Mr. Joseph Shaw, a Belfast turf accountant, sued the well-known Belfast auctioneer, Mr. R. M. Gray, whose conduct in pleading the Gaming Act as a bar to the plaintiff's claim on betting transactions was even more contemptible and more scurvy than such a plea is usually considered in the tribunals of private honour. It is true that Gray is a large advertiser with the papers, and we can only conclude that they have made the interests of the public subservient to the private interests of their proprietors by suppressing the details of the case.

As for Gray, we cannot, of course, deny the right of any defendant to claim the complete protection of the law; what we deny is that the code of gentlemen permits them to enter into transactions outside the law, to exact the debts of honour when they win and repudiate them in a court of law when they lose. It appears to us, as it appeared to Mr. Justice Dodd, that the plaintiff is "a man with considerable sense of rectitude." He thought he was doing business with a gentleman, only to discover that he was dealing with a common bet-dodger. Mr. Shaw paid out in winnings to this man very much more than he received as payment for losses. Gray (or his dummy, Wright, or both) had been paid £966 in the course of betting transactions, and yet when he had to pay £165, after being most considerately treated in respect of time for payment, he writes: "My solicitor is Mr. So-and-So; you can go and do your worst." "So that, even if you got what you are suing for," remarked his Lordship to Mr. Shaw in the witness-box, "they would have made £694 out of you—and they plead the Gaming Act?"

That question sufficiently marks his Lordship's opinion of the man's proceeding from the point of view of fairness and of honour. And yet the papers try to hide this contemptible and discreditable plea by suppressing the reports about it. We, at any rate, are determined that the man shall not escape the publicity he deserves. It is essential that those who choose to make bets with this man Gray should know that they do so at their own risk. He will probably take all, and pay nothing.

"THIRD CLASS, GET OUT AND SWIM."

OUR REASONS FOR REFUSING A POLITE INVITATION.

The Rev. Paul P. Bull, the sacerdotal cleric upon whose services in the first and second classes on board the *Cuffarder Mauretania* we recently commented, writes us a long and mostly irrelevant letter. Amongst his statements, however, is that, "as far as he knows," the whole of the third-class passengers might have attended both services if they had wished to do so. We are afraid he does not know very far, as any third-class passenger who had the temerity to invade the sacred precincts of the first or second classes would probably get some punishment, one of the ingredients of which would be boiling oil! Mr. Bull asks how, being but a casual passenger, he could insist on anything at all. In our opinion, he could certainly have refused to celebrate service unless it was free and open to all classes on board.

We are glad, however, to observe that he himself agrees with our point of view, for he says that he asked permission to minister for the ship's company, the stewards and the third-class passengers, though he tells us he was refused. We certainly think, in these circumstances, he should have declined to celebrate service for the wealthier-born of the ship's passengers, and thus recognise the social distinction which the officers of the ship wished to draw between those on board—apparently forgetting that, even in non-clerical quarters, they are in times of catastrophe all spoken of as "souls." Mr. Bull very calmly suggests that, "as atonement" for our "gratuitous attack," we should send him a subscription to the fund for building a guest house at Mirfield for workmen. We should, however, require to be satisfied on many points before we subscribed ourselves, or recommended anybody else to do so; nor, to speak candidly, is Mr. Bull exactly the type of gentleman we would choose as almoner.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXXXII.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

THE WOES OF A WIDOW.

We bring this week before our readers the pitiable case of a poor Barnsbury woman, widowed as recently as January 23rd. The husband had been an invalid for a very long time, suffering from bronchial consumption. The widow is now left with five little children—two boys, aged 9 and 7, and three girls of 8, 5, and 3—while another is expected within a month or two. She has been left totally unprovided for, her husband, although only 34 years of age, having done little work for some years owing to the state of his health. For some time the unfortunate family have hardly known how to keep body and soul together, and were it not for a few people giving the mother scraps of food for her children, and also finding her casual work (such as washing and charing), they would have had no alternative but to go into the workhouse, which they would have felt an indelible disgrace, as the woman is only 34 years of age. The elder children go to school, the little girl of 8 being fetched by an ambulance as—to add to their trouble—she is paralysed on one side. The neighbours, although but little richer themselves—with the sentiment which is one of the most touching possessions of the poor—subscribed a few shillings to enable the widow to buy a little black for mourning. We earnestly and confidently appeal for work for the mother and substantial pecuniary assistance to tide her and her children over their terrible misfortunes.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXXXVIII.—F. B., 1s.
CCXXXIX.—"Ruth," parcel clothing; "Mrs. A.," parcel "Little Tich," 2s. 8d.; "Tiredo," 4s.
CCXXX.—"The Lash," 2s.; E. W. T., 1s.; "One who was Down," 2s.; "Ratler," 1s.; E. B., 1s.; "Regular Reader," 6d.; "Epin," 20s.; L. C., 1s.; "An anxious Widow," 1s.; "Cymro," 1s.; "Sympathiser," 1s.; J. F., 1s.; B. W., 1s.; L. H. C., 5s.; "Broadstairs," 5s.; "Frenchman," 1s.; "Human," 2s. 6d.; "Walter," 5s.; R. E. S., 7s. 6d.; "Evelyn Celia," 1s.; B. B., 1s.; J. M. M., 1s.; "Hull Reader," 1s.; J. H. N., 1s. 6d.; N. L., 6d.; E. W. B., 1s. 6d.; "Sonari," 5s.
CCXXXI.—"Frenchman," 1s.; J. M. M., 4s. 3d.; "Ivy Mary," 1s.; "An Admirer," 10s. 6d.; A. J. E. S., 4s.; "Elgyne," 3s. 4d.; W. A. T., 1s.; M. P., 5s.; E. H. L., 1s.; P. E. U., 6d.; "Eric," 2s.; N. G. C., 1s.; "Two Bairns," 1s.; "Betty," 1s.; "Sonnie," 1s.; J. H. N., 1s. 8d.; "A Worker," 1s.; "Thankful," 1s. 6d.; T. L. M., 4s.

OUR COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others.

LONDON.—"Sympathiser," 15s. 2d.; Mr. A. E. Gilbert, "City Arms," Devons Road, Bow, 1s. 6d.; Mr. E. Underwood, "Bronley Arms," Fairfield Road, Bow, 1s. 11d.; Mr. E. C. Gilforth, "King's Arms," 357, Cable Street, Stepney, 1s.; Mr. H. Ault, 7, Albany Street, Camberwell, 1s. 6d.; Mr. Albin Pink, "Bell," 136, High Street, Shoreditch, 2s. 3d.; Mr. H. Lee, "Copenhagen," Salmon Lane, Limehouse, 1s. 5d.; Mr. H. Lane, "African Tavern," Poplar, 1s. 3d.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mr. J. Lowe, "Baltic Inn," Hope Street, 1s.; Mr. T. H. Albrighton, "St. George's Tavern," Harford Street, 1s. 1d.

Total £1 12s. 8d., of which we have allocated 12s. 8d. to CCXXXIX., and 20s. to CCXXXI.

"A CHAMPION COLLECTOR."—The South Kensington reader to whom we have already referred, and who keeps one of our collecting boxes in his house and levies a small toll upon all friends who are successful whenever he has a little card party, has already collected nearly £7, and writes that, as soon as the amount reaches £10, it is his intention to give us a guinea himself to celebrate the occasion. Other readers, please copy!

Have you caught the "Bullets" Craze? See page 218.

CAN MUSIC BE SELF TAUGHT?

A Library of Musical Instruction.

Many musically inclined people have hitherto been deterred from taking music up seriously by the expense and inconvenience of taking lessons from a music master. To such people the publication of "The Musical Educator" comes as a great boon. For "The Musical Educator" provides in compact and interesting form a complete and systematic education in music. It is written throughout by experts and is an authoritative guide to everything relating to music and singing. The illustrations are particularly valuable; they portray the different instruments, attitudes in playing, etc., and include five beautiful frontispieces and reproductions of valuable photographs.

We would especially draw attention to the following names of leaders in the musical world, and of the subjects for which they are responsible:—

- PADERE-SKI.**
"On the Best Way to Study the Piano."
MARK HAMBOURG.
"The Piano and How to Play It."
EDWIN H. LEMARE.
"The Art of Organ-Playing."
CARUSO.
"On the Cultivation of the Voice."
CLARA BUTT.
"On How to Sing a Song."
MADAME MARCHESI.
"The Teaching of Singing."
JOHN DUNN.
"On Playing the Violin."
Sir F. H. COWEN.
"The Art of Conducting."

The titles of a few of the sections are appended; every section is written by an expert.

Course on Voice Training, Singing, and Solaggio. Course on the Pianoforte. On the Violin. On Harmonium and American Organ. On the Organ. Lessons on Scientific Basis of Music. On Rudiments of Music. Course on Harmony and Counterpoint. Lessons in Canon and Fugue. Lessons in Musical Forms, Analysis and Composition. Articles on the Instruments used in Orchestras and in Bands. History of Music. Articles on Children's Music and Musical Drill, on Choir Training and Conducting. Article on Congregational Music. Biographical Dictionary of Musicians. Article on Musical Degrees. Nationality in Music.

TWO OPINIONS.

SIR J. FREDERICK BRIDGE, Mus. Doc., Organist at Westminster Abbey:

"The Musical Educator" is full of useful information plainly set forth. The musical illustrations are excellent."

MR. CHAS. J. WINYARD, 23, Aberdeen Terrace, Tyne Dock:

"I find it of inestimable value in the education of my children, and also of great benefit to myself. The lessons are so graded that anyone should be able to make himself efficient by their study."

A FREE BOOKLET.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
4, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, your illustrated prospectus of "The Musical Educator," and particulars of your plan by which the five volumes are delivered for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid by small monthly payments.

Name
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address

HOW TO KEEP IN GOOD HEALTH.

A GREAT WORK.

By Dr. Andrew Wilson.

In these days of unsettled weather and raging epidemics anything that will help one to keep in good health and ward off illness is a thing greatly to be desired, and Dr. Andrew Wilson has written a book specially to fulfil this purpose.

It is called "The Modern Physician," and the information it gives can often prove invaluable in the home.

The section devoted to Hygiene, otherwise known as Preventive Medicine, includes the full exposition of the laws of health, and special attention is devoted to physical culture. The important subject of First Aid and

AMBULANCE WORK

is fully treated and lavishly illustrated.

Since a knowledge of the many and marvellous functions of the body in health is necessary to a due understanding of the body when the various organs become deranged by disease, descriptions of every part of the frame will be found in "The Modern Physician," the skeleton muscles, digestive system, heart and lungs, brain and nervous system, organs of sense, skin, kidneys, etc., etc., being fully explained and illustrated.

In this connection the coloured "manikins" or "dummies," in which the various organs overlap each other precisely as they do in the human body, are very useful in making the reading matter clear.

The section devoted to "The Family Medicine Chest" gives the description, uses and doses of drugs, used as drops, lotions, ointments and gargles.

THE HEALTH OF WOMEN.

Volume V. deals entirely with the Health and Diseases of Women. It will be found useful to mothers who wish their daughters to grow up into healthy women. Midwifery and the diseases of infants and children are fully treated.

There is a section devoted to Invalid Cookery, and a complete series of physicians' prescriptions will be found both reliable and useful.

MR. WEL WEBB, 102, Queensland Street, Liverpool writes:

"The Modern Physician" ought to be in every household in the land, and it is certainly no fault of yours should it not be so, for the price at which it is published is reasonable, and the terms of subscription exceptionally easy."

MR. A. H. HART, 16, Canbury Park Road, Kingston-on-Thames:

"Three things especially impressed me—the up-to-date character of the work, the simplicity of the language used, and its practical value. It is creditable alike to Editor and Publisher."

A FREE BOOKLET.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, illustrated booklet on "The Modern Physician," and particulars of your plan whereby the five volumes are delivered for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid by small monthly payments.

Name
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address

IS BALZAC IMMORAL?

An Unexpurgated Edition.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the recent announcement of an edition of that great French author, Balzac, in its complete and unexpurgated form caused a considerable stir in certain quarters.

Fortunately, however, the publication is now an accomplished fact. For, though the prurient-minded may see wrong where none is meant—and Balzac certainly did write of nature as he found it—it would have been a thousand pities if the public had been deprived of this, its first chance of reading Balzac as he meant to be read.

THE NAPOLEON OF LITERATURE

For Balzac was to literature what Napoleon was to arms—a man of giant brain who saw all life, all character, and all events as material to be turned into stories, and who did not believe that there were any events that could not be told with advantage. And so his novels make their appeal to all.

BALZAC'S BEST NOVELS.

And all those who realise this will hasten to take advantage of the offer of his Best Novels in 14 volumes, specially selected by that famous Balzacian, Mr. Clement Shorter, Editor of the *Sphere*.

CLEMENT SHORTER'S CHOICE.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cousin Bette. | The Lily of the Valley. |
| Cousin Pons. | The Illustrious Gaudissart. |
| La Duchesse de Langeais. | The Village Cure. |
| The House of the Cat and Racket. | The Country Doctor. |
| Gobseck. | The Magic Skin. |
| Old Goriot. | The Unknown Masterpiece. |
| Eugenie Grandet. | |

WHAT "UNEXPURGATED" MEANS.

"Something has been said of the fact that the publishers advertise that their Balzac is 'unexpurgated.' This is of the utmost importance. The charge that a translator 'betrays' is justified where there is a prurient attempt to modify and alter phrases in the interests of Mrs. Grundy. Nothing can justify that. When face to face with a great classic we want the book as near as possible as the author presented it.

"Altogether it would be impossible to speak too highly of the excellence of translation of this edition of Balzac's novels."

The whole forms 14 fine volumes, handsomely bound in green and gold. The illustrations are by many of the foremost French artists, and the frontispieces are etchings printed from copperplates. The originals were exhibited in the Salon.

A FREE BOOKLET.

To the Caxton Publishing Co., Ltd.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, detailed prospectus of "Balzac's Best Novels," with terms of easy payments.

Name
(Send this form or a postcard.)

Address



BOY: "Extry Special! Extry Special!!"
 REV. STINGIMAN (before deciding to purchase): "Is there anything of very great importance in it?"
 BOY: "Nottarf! The Bermondsey Chicken has knocked out Chelsea Bill in the third round!"

SAD STORIES.

BY LEOPOLD SPERO.

A Peer of the Realm, being Temporarily Embarrassed for the Better Adjustment of Some Trifling Liabilities, sought the Hand of a Yankee Heiress, who was then on Tour in London. The Lady's Father, from Oshkosh, in Mich., where he Excelled in the Manufacture of Wooden Nutmegs, was a Stiffer Proposition. In fact, to use his own Luminous Phrase, he was "some Inquiry Agent on the Matrimony Stunt." Finally, he consented to Meet the Prospective Encumbrance, and having Met Him, spat. The Peer was offended. "Why," he enquired, "do you thus Expectorate?" "It's my way of Reflecting," said the Prince of Commerce, "and I judge that we two can Do a Deal." The Lordling was Appeased, for he Scented Shekels. "What do you Propose?" he asked. "I propose," said the Plutocrat, Spitting once More, "to make a Damgood Trade by Buying you at My Price, Young Feller, and Selling you at Your Own."

A Policeman, being in the Witness-box, had Occasion to Lie. "But, listen," urged the Defending Counsel. "You say my Client was exceeding the Speed Limit. How do you account for the fact that at the Moment in Question his Speedometer Registered 12 miles an Hour only?" "I can't account for it, sir," said Robert. "I'm a Policeman, not an Actuary."

A Camel, having by dint of a year's practice trained itself to go through the eye of a needle, was purchased by a certain Rich Man, with a view to eventualities. The Rich Man died one day, and rode on the Camel's back to the Gates of Heaven. Mahomet, coming out to see who was making the Noise, was met by a formal Request for admission. "Why," said Mahomet, "should I let you in, Rich Man?" "You watch my Camel," said the Rich Man, and put it through its paces. The Saint seemed impressed, but at length he Bolted the Gate. "I'll tell you what you can do," he called through the Bars, "you can take your Trick Animal and go to Blazes."

THE BOARD AND THE BOATS.

OUR PRINCIPAL PLEA JUSTIFIED—BUT!

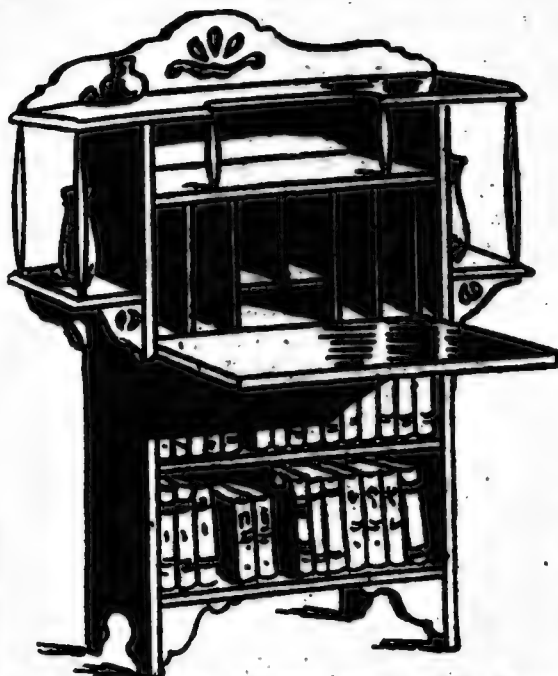
At last the Marine Department of the Board of Trade have issued their much-vaunted new Rules regarding life-saving appliances for passenger steamers. We congratulate them on adopting some of the suggestions made by us—notably, that all boats should be tested with their full complement of passengers, seated, with room for the free use of the oars, and that the launching apparatus should be of sufficient strength to lower the boats fully laden, and equipped with compass, water, biscuits and signal lights. The Board have, however, confined these obviously necessary provisions to boats launched after March 1st next. What, may we ask, do they intend to do with regard to those now sailing the seas?

As regards foreign-going passenger steamers, our maxim "Boats for all," may to some extent be regarded as justified, though only if allowance is made for the Board's favourite decked lifeboats—a strange kind of craft, presumably merely a life-raft, with canvass boards. They are, as we have already said, of very doubtful practical utility. Nor have we altered our frequently expressed opinion regarding the practice of placing three or four boats under one set of davits—especially as this, in common with almost everything else, has to be done merely to the satisfaction of the Board's Surveyors—who have so often shown weakness and deplorable judgment.

In the home trade—especially the cross-Channel traffic—matters will be in an even worse condition, as there is virtually no obligation to carry more lifeboats—those wretched death-traps, life-rafts, buoyancy deck seats, and other "approved" apparatus, being regarded as sufficient. Indeed, as far as these boats and excursion steamers are concerned, the new Rules are practically useless.

We venture to predict that two-thirds of the Board's marine staff will not understand or be able to administer these Rules, however zealous may be their intentions—for example, the directions for measuring the capacity of the boats are enough to puzzle even the legendary Philadelphia lawyer.

A Fasinating Pastime with Money in it—"Bullets." See page 218.

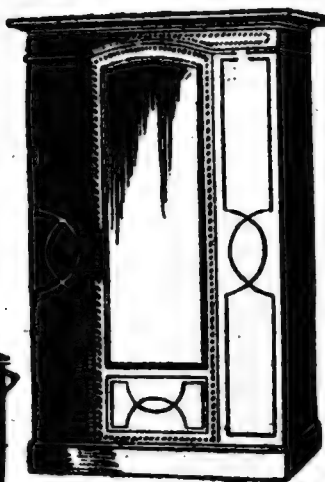
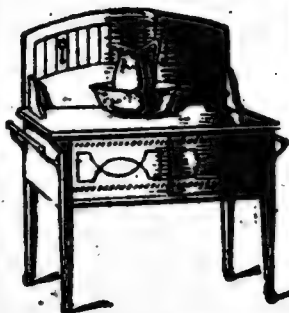


Bureau, as Illustrated £2 2s.

House can offer you, none excepted. You buy exactly the same Furniture—same material, same workmanship—same distinctive design, as you would get prior to or after the Sale, but you wouldn't buy at anywhere near the same price. In a word, you get more Furniture for less money.

This Sale will, undoubtedly, be the biggest in the history of our Firm—we shall sell more furniture and find more customers than we have ever done before—just because our values and our exceptional and distinctive stock are the best and biggest on record.

Orders received during this Sale will have our immediate and most careful attention, and our Stock is such that we can give immediate delivery of anything selected.



Visitors to our Showrooms should make an especial point of seeing our newly re-arranged model rooms and completely furnished flats, to be purchased exactly as they stand at inclusive figures.

An additional discount of 10 % will always be allowed for Cash, and your fares to our Showrooms paid on any order over £20.

Bedroom Suite, as Illustrated, £9 9s.

For the thousands who wish to take advantage of our present Sale Prices, and who at the same time want further special terms, we offer our **GRADUAL PAYMENTS**. All you are required to pay is a small sum per month or per quarter, arranged so that the complete purchase is made in a term of one, two, or three years, as may suit your convenience. No interest is charged for this, and it follows that it costs you no more to purchase in this way.

Our Second-hand Department enables our customers to secure much better bargains than are possible either at auction sales or from the ordinary dealer.

GENERAL TERMS.

£10 Worth	20	6	0	per Month
20	0	11	0	"
30	0	17	0	"
40	1	5	0	"
50	1	8	0	"
100	2	5	0	"
200	4	10	0	"
500	11	5	0	"
1,000	22	10	0	"

We do not charge interest or require deposit. Country Customers' fares are paid on any order over £30. Every article purchased is very carefully packed and delivered to any required address free of all cost. Any Carpets or Lino bought will be laid free, and schemes for completely furnishing a house in various original and attractive styles will be submitted at your request. £10,000 of Secondhand Furniture always in stock.

HACKNEY FURNISHING Company, Ltd.,

OXFORD ST. SHOWROOMS:

103 & 103a OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

Telephone: 8936 and 8008 Gerrard. Telegrams: "Openwork, London."

Ramsay Branch: High Street, Ramsgate

HOURS OF BUSINESS: Oxford Street—9 till 8; Saturdays 9 till 1 o'clock.

HACKNEY SHOWROOMS:

1, 2, 3, 4, Town Hall Buildings; 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, The Grove (adjoining), Mare St., Hackney, London.

Telephone: 84 Dalston & 854 North. Telegrams: "Furniments, London."

Mare Street—9 till 9; Thursdays 9 till 1 o'clock.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS, AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, M.P.

DEAR PREMIER,—Sorry to bother you again so soon, but why don't you take a Referendum on the question of women's votes? It seems to me that your position is rendered doubly difficult by the awkward fact that you don't know what the country wants you to do in the matter. Like the man in the song, you don't know where you are. You see, even after you get to know what the country wants, you needn't give it to them unless you like; whereas if you want to give it to them you will have a good excuse. Moreover, between you and me—but hush! we are observed. Think it over.

JOHN BULL.

To His Grace the Archbishop of York.

MY LORD ARCHBISHOP,—Permit me to congratulate you upon your sane and moderate speech during the debate upon the Home Rule Bill. Every line of it contained matter which the Prime Minister and his colleagues should mark, learn and inwardly digest. Rarely have I read an episcopal utterance so instinct with the true spirit of statesmanship.

Is it too much to hope that your words may bear fruit? The position of the House of Lords in this matter is an unfortunate one. Noble opponents and critics of the Bill will be strongly tempted to exert the full measure of power reserved to them by the Parliament Act. I am convinced, however, that there is a wiser and more public-spirited course open to them when next the Bill is before them. Let them courageously frame and pass amendments which, to use your own admirable phrase, "will overcome the invincible repugnance of Ulster." Let these amendments be presented to the House of Commons, backed as they will be by all the best and most responsible elements in your assembly. If the Commons prove obdurate, you will have done your best to avert the disaster which we all dread. But, if success attend your efforts, as haply it may, you and those associated with you in the work will go down to history, not merely as prelates or as peers, but as patriots who knew how to steer the ship of state through the stress of storm and strife to the haven of safety and peace.

JOHN BULL.

To the Insurance Commissioners, Buckingham Gate, Westminster.

GENTLEMEN,—My attention has been called to the case of one John Leverton, who died the other day in the Poor Law Infirmary at Nottingham. He was consumptive, and a few weeks ago was compelled to relinquish his situation. He then claimed sanatorium benefit under the new Act, to which he was undoubtedly entitled, and was admitted to the Nottingham Sanatorium.

He remained there five weeks, and was then discharged in a worse condition than he entered. Twelve days later he was dead.

I cannot think that it is your intention that the sanatorium benefit should be administered in this callous and haphazard way. Either Leverton was a fit subject for sanatorium treatment or he was not. The doctors in charge of the institution apparently decided that he was. Subsequently, they found they were mistaken, and that the man's illness was fatal; whereupon they cast him adrift at the time when he stood most in need of that skilled care and attention which those specially trained in the treatment of consumptives are best able to afford.

Incidents of this kind cannot fail to intensify the feeling of suspicion and mistrust of the Insurance Act.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. Hugh B. Chapman, Chapel Royal, Savoy.

DEAR SIR,—I do not blame the philanthropic instinct which prompted you to intercede for the Eastbourne murderer. But you now eat humble pie much too voraciously for an eminent divine. Even though you were "entirely misled," it does not follow that the Home Secretary displayed "humaneness throughout the whole matter." What about the poor mother who was denied the satisfaction of marrying the father of her child?

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Justice Avery.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP,—Or not, just as you please. One does not expect a gentleman of your Lordship's hard and unemotional temperament to be found often in the melting mood. I am charmed, therefore, to perceive that your sittings at Carmarthen Assizes were distinguished by so charming an incident as that which has attracted the attention of most of the Welsh reporters. Lest you have forgotten it, I mean the incident of that special jurymen, Mr. R. H. Harries, M.F.H., who begged you to excuse his attendance as he wished to go to a meeting of the Hunt. There was evidently a delightful candour about this illustrious person which touched your heart. Appealed to in this way by a gentleman was obviously "somebody" in the county. I am not surprised that your Lordship was moved by an unwonted emotion, not only assuring the distinguished applicant for relief from the fatiguing and harassing pursuits of justice in the jury-box, that fox-hunting was a subject with which you had special sympathy and that you would do all you could for him, but expressing anxiety lest he should not be in time for the chase. In the minds of censorious people, my Lord, it may appear that you displayed a favouritism which I admit is not customary with judges, but I prefer to think that you were touched by an irresistible and exclusive affinity in granting the application. Further, I do not doubt that you felt amply rewarded when the M.F.H. remarked "Thank you, my Lord. I am very glad to hear you are a sportsman." May I say that I trust your Lordship's sporting instinct will long remain with you, and that I shall look forward to seeing it widened in sympathy and interest? For instance, the pursuit of business by those who are summoned on juries is not less worthy of your official consideration and patronage than the pursuit of foxes. This being so, I am venturing to assure a large number of struggling tradesmen, who have the extremest difficulty in making both ends meet, that when they are summoned as jurymen to your Lordship's court all they have to do is to quote the M.F.H. as a precedent and appeal to you as a sporting judge to excuse their attendance. It may, of course, be that some of them will ask you to excuse them on the ground that they prefer to attend a football match or watch a game of cricket, but whatever the plea, I shall confidently rely on you to provide willingly and affably for their several necessities. I write this in all good feeling, for to tell the truth, notwithstanding our past differences, I am beginning rather to like you.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. George Jade, Lessee, New Theatre and Opera House, Maidenhead.

DEAR SIR,—Just a few lines of inquiry. In the course of an action against you a few days ago, I observe that one Stewart, described as your electrician and stage manager, was also the property man, the bill poster, the carpenter, and the scenic artist. Will you be good enough to inform me, in the interests of dramatic art, whether he was likewise the lightning and the thunder, the singing in the trees, the snow, the wind, and horses' hoofs, and all such things as these?

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. Pooler, Castle Bromwich Golf Club.

DEAR "DOC."—Now you really are frank! I love you for saying, "It is all very well to damage letter-boxes and other Government property, but when it comes to interfering with golf-greens the action of the Suffragists is absurd and ridiculous in the extreme." In other words, never mind what misery and hardships may be caused by the loss of cheques and postal orders to the poor, so long as you and your friends are permitted to enjoy their game of ball! By the way, what was the precise distinction in your mind between "absurd" and "ridiculous"? Both adjectives qualify you very accurately.

JOHN BULL.

Sir Percy Scott, Admiralty.

Still awaiting reply to my charges that whilst in active command you conspired to ruin and discredit your senior officer, Lord Charles Beresford. Are you a coward as well as a sneak?

BULL.

Our Football Prizes are meant to be Won. Abandoned matches make no difference.

"STIRRING THINGS UP!"

(In his Land Campaign speech at the National Liberal Club, Mr. Lloyd George said that when he first visited the club, twenty-five years ago, he "felt that things generally needed stirring up—and he was still of that opinion.")



ASQUITH: "Phew! This is getting a bit too hot for me. I think I'd better move to 'another place.'!"

IN THE CONSULTING-ROOM OF DR. BULL.

BY WALTER MOORE.

IV.—MR. H. H. ASQUITH.

Good evening, Mr. Asquith. . . . Take a chair, will you—under the light. . . . By the way, your distinguished colleague, Mr. Lloyd George, consulted me last week. . . . I trust your trouble is not so serious. . . . Rather more so? . . . That's bad. . . . Fear a complete breakdown? . . . Come, come! You mustn't give way to gloomy apprehensions. . . . Tell me your symptoms. . . .

A presentiment of impending disaster? . . . Ah! . . . Which you can't shake off? . . . Yes, yes. . . . Feel as if a catastrophe, or a suffragette, is hanging over you? . . . H'm! . . . Frequent flushings of the face? . . . Start at the slightest sound? . . . Dear me! . . . How is the appetite? . . . Poor? . . . Ah! Let me look at the tongue. . . . T'ch, t'ch! . . . Somewhat feverish. . . . You find work distasteful? . . . Yes, yes. . . . Have to make a great effort to carry out your duties, I dare say? . . . Ah! . . .

Yours is a somewhat difficult case, Mr. Asquith, and one for which medicine can do little good, I fear. . . . However, exercising the freedom which is the physician's privilege, I will give you the best and soundest advice that lies in my power. I am inclined to think that your indisposition arises from a disturbed conscience. . . . Now, whereabouts in the human anatomy is the seat of that troublesome organ has never yet been conclusively proved. Some anatomists say the heart, others the brain, and, again, others assign it to the liver. . . . I am inclined to endorse the latter opinion. . . . Consequently, in the first place, I shall put you on low diet. . . . A little clear soup, followed by—Hate soup? . . . Already in the soup? . . . Ha, ha! . . . Well, well! . . . And a bit of fish—eels, for choice . . . and a small portion of—er—Cabinet pudding, let us say. . . . But you must understand that diet will do no more than alleviate your symptoms—the complete cure rests with yourself. . . . You must thoroughly purge your conscience. . . . Ease your mind with confession, if you are troubled with feelings of remorse. . . . Yes, yes; I know. . . . There, there! . . . Don't give way—although tears in such a case are sometimes a relief. . . . You astonish me! . . . Of course, I was aware that party politicians, as a class are not over-scrupulous; but I never thought that the Chief Minister of the King would so far degrade his office as to indulge in such questionable manoeuvres. . . . In my opinion, your course is clear. . . . Send for Mrs. Pankhurst, and confess you knew all along that the Suffrage amendments, if carried, would wreck the Franchise Bill. . . . You at least owe that to her and to yourself. . . . You will experience ease of mind at once. . . . And since work has become obnoxious to you, let me recommend you to retire to the House of Lords, and leave the heat and burden of the Parliamentary day to one of your colleagues in the Cabinet. . . .

Your premonitions of approaching evil I am afraid I can do nothing to remove. . . . Until the suffragists are granted some form of Parliamentary franchise you will have grounds for fear. . . . But keep up your strength as much as possible, and distract your mind by reading light literature, such as Erskine May on Parliamentary Procedure, and other amusing books. . . .

Oh, yes; I'll write you a prescription . . . something of a sedative character. . . . My fee? . . . Well, I don't suppose you would care to pay me less than Mr. Lloyd George did . . . I let him off with ninepence. . . . Oh, well, if fourpence is all the change you have at the moment you can leave the fivepence balance until a more convenient occasion. . . . There is the prescription, Mr. Asquith, and I trust you will derive much benefit from it. . . . Good night good night! . . . Go out by the back door? . . . By all means. . . . Good night!

THE PRESCRIPTION.

Suffragetted Hydrogen, 1 drachm.
Dublin stout, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint.
Essence of Orange, 1 scruple.
Epsom salts, 2 ozs.

Mix, and take one tablespoonful three times a day after meals, in hot water.

POLITICAL NURSERY RHYMES.

NEW AND REVISED VERSIONS.

BY RICARDO.

FOR MR. LLOYD GEORGE:—

Taffy was a Welshman,
Taffy was a saint,
Always came up smiling,
Always fresh as paint;
All the doctors loved him,
Landlords followed suit,
Taffy came to ev'ry house
And brought refreshing fruit.

FOR MRS. PANKHURST:—

Ride a cock-horse
Till awfully cross;
A really fine lady upon the high horse,
Snapping her fingers,
Annoying her foes,
She makes mad music wherever she goes.

FOR MR. BALFOUR:—

Baa, baa, Balfour,
Owe you any debt?
Yes, sir; no, sir,
Three I can't forget;
One for the Long man,
One for the Brum,
And one for the man who sits
Whence I have come.

FOR MR. ASQUITH:—

The ladies will shriek
Each day of the week,
And what will a Premier do then, poor thing?
His promises vain,
He will make once again,
And bury his head in the sand, poor thing.

FOR THE SPEAKER:—

There was a little man,
Who upset a party's plan,
Till their hearts were as heavy as lead,
For he took his little gun,
And he shot their little Bill,
And he shot it right through the head.

FOR MR. BONAR LAW.

Sing a song of food tax,
Raise the flag on high;
Who's the man to haul it down?
Such an one not I!
When friends make a rumpus,
Give an answer soft;
Say the flag is hauled down,
While it's still aloft.

A MEDDY CUSS.

Write—write—write—

Morning, noon, and night.
The doctor is now a Government clerk,
Scribbling from daylight on till dark.
See your patients by hook or crook,
Scrawl down their names in the big day book,
Insured one's number, and also see
Name of approved sociatee;
Number of ditto, and don't forget
To down in the proper column set
Hieroglyphic A.V., S.V.,
D.S., F.R., A.N., O.P.
Address in full, and occupation,
And his complaint—Hello! Damnation!
What is the matter? No time to see
Coughs or obstructed herniae:
Write out in full your prescriptions three,
Off to the chemist for A.D.T.
Will it cure him? Wait and see.

God! 'tis a fearsome thing to see
That pale wan man's last agony:
Soul and body have broken pact,
Victim of the Insurance Act.

A. W. B. C.



If you would be
**HEALTHY
& HAPPY**
and "always
**MERRY
& BRIGHT**"

You cannot be healthy or happy if you are suffering from indigestion. When that is your condition only a part of the food you eat is being used to nourish and strengthen your body. The rest of it is lying undigested in your stomach, fermenting and giving off gases that pollute your whole system. The existence of bad digestion is seen in a variety of ways. You may have pains in the chest and stomach after eating, biliousness, headaches, giddiness, sleeplessness, coated tongue, and a poor appetite. These symptoms are present because your stomach is not in con-

dition to properly perform its allotted task. To be healthy and happy, to be "always merry and bright," you must remove all distressing and dangerous symptoms of indigestion by taking Mother Seigel's Syrup. It will make you healthy, active and strong. Tens of thousands of people in the past forty years have found it a safe household remedy. To-day it is well known in thousands of homes, in sixteen different countries, as an effective remedy for all stomach disorders. Get a bottle and try it for your case. Every dose is a step towards good health.

**MOTHER
SEIGEL'S SYRUP**

AND YOU'LL FEEL "AS FIT AS A FIDDLE."

The 2/6 Bottle contains 3 times as much as the 1/12 size.
Also in tablet form, 2/9.

Here

Take it when you're young—you'll have
a good digestion when you're old.

1, 2, 3, 4

Place Mustard at every corner
of the table, and you'll keep a
heartly appetite and a sound diges-
tion within easy reach of everyone.

Always help yourself to mustard, and
ask for it just as often as there is meat,
poultry, or game on the table.

But the mustard should be the best—

Colman's
Mustard

Here

Here

PILES.

A cure guaranteed by this wonderful
discovery of Nature's remedy, which at-
tacks the root of the evil. (No temporary
ointment relief.) Safe with delicate consti-
tutions, and free from drugs or minerals. Price 2/9, plain wrappers.
"Just a simple remedy" efficacious or money returned.

PYLO Co., 36 and 37, Cock Lane, London.

To Cure Your Catarrh, Deafness, Asthma and Bronchitis.

WORLD-FAMOUS MAN'S OFFER TO ALL SUFFERERS FROM BREATHING TROUBLES.

How You may obtain immediate relief and ultimate cure for
Catarrh, Cold in the Head, Asthma, Bronchitis, Hay Fever, Coughs,
Influenza, Catarrhal Deafness, Consumption, &c., &c.

Mr. R. T. Booth, who issues the following announcement, is the world-famous
temperance orator, who some years ago, in co-operation with such friends and co-
workers as the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, Rev. F. B. Meyer, the late Rev. Newman
Hall, Archdeacon Wilberforce, Lord Mount Temple, and others, led the Blue Ribbon
movement, which ultimately brought a million to temperance. This glorious work
was cut short by acute catarrh and threatened consumption, which sent him, by
the order of the late Sir Andrew Clark, health-seeking to Australia. There he made
his great discovery of Hyomee, which has since cured multitudes of similar sufferers.
Hyomee is an inhalant which, being a powerful germ killer, cures by just breathing it.

Mr. R. T. Booth's words to sufferers are: "I want you to try this remedy because
it has kept me cured for over a quarter of a century, and I know it can cure you.
Thirty years ago, as many of you know, I was stricken with Catarrh in so malignant
a form that my life was despaired of. Sir Andrew Clark, the late Mr. W. E. Glad-
stone's physician, advised me to make a journey to Australia, where it was hoped
that the warmer climate would bring me relief. In that country I found my cure.
That was thirty years ago, and to-day, thanks to Hyomee, I have no signs of breath-
ing troubles, despite my age.

"I want every sufferer from breathing troubles to give Hyomee a trial. That
they may do so, I have put the price within the reach of all. I implicitly believe in
my remedy, and that is why I am so insistent in asking you to try it. I would
not attach my name to anything unless I firmly believed it would accomplish all
that I claim for it. So great is my faith in Hyomee, moreover, that I guarantee
to return your money if it does not benefit you. (See Coupon below.)

If your nose is stopped up,
If your voice is dull or harsh,
If your eyes often water,
If you sleep with your mouth open,
If crusts form in the nose,
If you catch cold easily,
If your hearing is affected,

If you have head noises,
If your throat is dry,
If you have a short, hacking cough,
If you have much discharge from the
nose,
If your sense of smell is affected,
If mucus drops into your throat.

"If, in fact, you have one or more of the above symptoms, then there is some-
thing wrong with your breathing organs, and it is now that you should get your
cure, before the trouble gets worse.

PRaise FROM OTHERS.

"Not only am I myself convinced as to the undoubted superiority and efficacy
of Hyomee, but thousands of users in this country have written me within the
last few years testifying in no uncertain
terms to the remarkable effect my
remedy has had in their cases. Their
experience may be yours, but do not
be misled by the specious advertise-
ments of people who will apparently
say anything and make any claims,
however wildly absurd, to sell their
nostrums.



R. T. BOOTH,

(Temperance Advocate, Social
Reformer, Health Expert,
Leader of the Blue Ribbon
Movement, and Discoverer of
Hyomee).

"Remember, no cough mixture no
lozenge, no drops, indeed no medicine
taken into the stomach ever did or ever
will cure, or even relieve, nasal or throat
catarrh, influenza, bronchitis, or lung
trouble.

"I have so devised the Hyomee
Treatment that it gives you in your own
homes dried, clean air, filtered and im-
pregnated with cleansing and healing
balsms, exactly as you would get it and
breathe it if you were living as I did
in Australia. That is the fact about
the Hyomee Treatment; it gives you
the exact counterpart of the healing
Australian air in your own homes.
Whether your trouble is in the Head
(Nose), with all the horrors of foul
and dropping mucus, in the Throat,
with constant hacking, soreness, phlegm,
and coughing; in the Lungs, with
congestion and constant threat of Con-
sumption; or if it is Deafness,

there is not in the world a treatment at any price—let alone at the low
price at which I offer you the Hyomee Treatment—that should be mentioned
in the same breath as the Hyomee Treatment for the relief and cure of the
above troubles. R. T. BOOTH."

The Pocket Outfit for giving the Hyomee treatment contains an inhaler
with supply of antiseptic gauze, a bottle of the inhalant "Hyomee," and
directions how to use it for Nasal and Throat Catarrh, Head Cold, and
Catarrhal Deafness, as well as for such other troubles as Coughs, Colds,
Influenza, Bronchitis, Asthma, Whooping, Difficult Breathing, Tonsillitis,
Whooping Cough, Croup, Laryngitis, Consumption, Hay Fever, Throat
Troubles, including, in fact, all respiratory troubles, and the price of
the Complete Hyomee Pocket Outfit, to place it within the reach of all
is 2s. 6d. complete.

A copy of the Booklet, giving the account of Mr. Booth's discovery, will be sent
free to all who send for it, but all sufferers are advised to lose no time, but post at
once coupon below, with P.O. or stamps, for a complete Hyomee Pocket Outfit,
seeing that delay in starting to cure such troubles is dangerous.

CUT OUT AND POST THIS AT ONCE
to the R. T. BOOTH CO., THE HYOMEET INSTITUTE,
786, Museum Station Buildings, 133-136 High Holborn, London, W.C.
I enclose herewith 2s. 6d. (to be refunded in full if I write you that the Hyomee
Treatment has done me no good), for which you will please send me a complete
Hyomee Pocket Outfit, together with full directions for the application of
the Hyomee Treatment (Foreign Orders 1s. extra).

NAME
(Write very plainly, stating if Rev., Mr., Mrs., or Miss.)

ADDRESS

IMPORTANT NOTE.—You are invited to write a separate letter to us giving
us full particulars of your trouble, and we will endeavour to send you a letter
of special advice and guidance of how you may get rid of same.

THE R. T. BOOTH CO.

BILLIARD EXPRESSIONS—1.



"EASY POCKETS."

A BOER WAR INCIDENT.

SIR PERCY SCOTT AND THE KAFFIR.

BY AN EYE-WITNESS.

Some little while ago a Kaffir put in a claim for £40 at the Pietermaritzburg Court for services rendered to the Crown during the late Boer war.

What actually took place was that four Kaffirs escaped from the Boers' "Botha's party" at Colenso. They came to Cheively, and the one in question said he would like to point out where the Boers were concentrated and which was their stronghold; therefore he was taken to where Captain Scott was superintending the guns brought from on board ship by the sailors.

Captain Scott listened to the man's report, and everybody saw quite a black mass of Boers. Captain Scott concentrated the fire on that particular spot, which enabled our men to cross the Tugela, preparatory to the Battle of Peiters Hill.

Now when I read of that Kaffir's claim, I remarked, "There's one man that I know who could get that Kaffir his £40, and that is Captain Scott." Will he open his mouth, or not? I have not seen any report that he has. Perhaps he wants a reminder.

I know it is correct, because I was in charge of a party of men at the very spot and quite near to the naval guns and Captain Scott, and later on the four Kaffirs were under my charge as prisoners—"surveillance" only.

Where is justice? One man covering himself with honour and glory, while the other poor devil is starving!

CANARIES.

(During the recent floods a large number of canaries were drowned.)

"Canaries will be very scarce,"

A week ago I read;

Their price is sure to rise, so I'll
Jamaicas eat, instead.

At several of the music-halls,

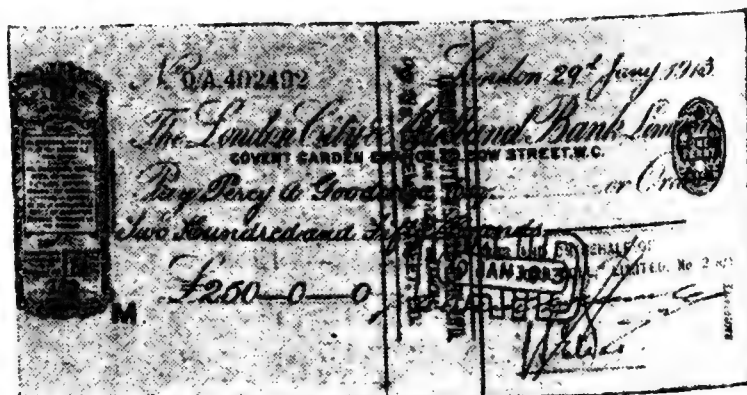
The artistes, when they heard,
Rejoiced—because there's now less chance
That they will get "the bird."

OUR NO. 15 "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

£250 GOES TO A WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA RESIDENT.

The dovescotes in those distant new suburbs of London, Southend and Westcliff-on-Sea, have been considerably fluttered by the award to Mr. Percy A. Goodwin, of the latter place, of the £250 prize in our "Bullets" Competition No. 15. After describing his natural delight at receiving the cheque, he tells us the following interesting and amusing experience on a train journey to London:—

"A passenger, speaking in a rather high-pitched voice, said to a friend: 'Did you notice the poster of JOHN BULL announcing that a Westcliff reader had won £250?'—to which came the reply that it was 'probably all bunkum, and just a catch for people to purchase the paper.' After several others in the carriage had made suggestions to



much the same effect, I quietly stated that I happened to be the lucky winner, and when I produced the cheque for their inspection 'silence reigned supreme.' *Verb sap.* We should have liked to have seen the faces of the doubting Thom-asses!

The original of the above cheque is on view on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, February 5th, 6th and 7th, in the window of Mr. C. Ryall, 222, Leigh Road East, Westcliff; and on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, February 8th, 10th and 11th, in that of Mrs. A. Watson, 1, London Road, Southend-on-Sea. We extend a cordial invitation to any other local sceptics to inspect the actual cheque at close quarters. There is an old saying, truer than most of such saws, that: "Seeing is believing"!

26 a Week for Life AND £600 in Cash. The Greatest Prize Offer ever made.

A "JOHN BULL" OFFER. NEWSPAPER'S 25 NOTE.

An enterprising Journal recently offered a £5 note to the highest bidder, just to test the selling powers of the paper. Whilst the note was eventually disposed of for £4 10s., a number of applicants treated the offer as a huge joke. A well-known firm of tailors, Messrs. H. Thomas & Co. of 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., offer to make a Gent's Complete well-made stylish Suit to measure for only 15s. 6d. Whilst this offer, which is made only to "John Bull" readers and is therefore termed a "John Bull" offer, is no less startling than the paper's offer of a £5 note, it is perfectly honest, and made by a responsible firm.

The materials are good, which you can see before ordering as samples are sent free, and a guarantee is given that if not entirely satisfactory goods are given money is returned in full.

Send a post-card or call to-day for patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. Mention "John Bull." For these 15s. 6d. measure garments are essentially "John Bull" offers. See offer underneath.



A COMPLETE,

UP-TO-DATE,

GENT'S SUIT 15/6

ADVERTISING OFFER TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

We realise that to make you a customer we must go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a stylish well-tailored Complete Suit for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—to measure, too, remember. Other prices 19s. 6d., 23s. 6d., up to 40s.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an advertising offer absolutely, and send us to-day merely a postcard for large range of patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. The materials will bear the closest scrutiny—then we fit you to your satisfaction or refund money. Why say more? Can we do more? Mention "John Bull" for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & Co., 142, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.



What shall we
have today?
Happy thought!

Bird's Custard Hot

with stewed prunes

You prepare the Bird's Custard in the usual way and serve at once while Hot. This makes a rich cream sauce, which, poured over hot stewed prunes, forms a delicious dish for cold days.

With this Bird's Custard Sauce, the plainest pudding is transformed into a delightful treat.



Keep your Boys
at Home.



Your boys will be delighted with a Billiard Table in the home. No matter how small your room is, there is a Riley Table to fit it. RILEY'S MINATURE BILLIARD TABLES give a perfect game—so truly are they proportioned. Prices from £37/6. The 6ft. 4in. size at £25/0 is suitable for most rooms. Riley's Combine Billiard and Dining Tables from £13/10. Cash or easy payments. These prices include all accessories. **Gray's Book on Billiards published at 1/- will be sent post free on receipt of two penny stamps.** Free on receipt of postcard full detailed illustrated catalogue.

E. J. Riley, Ltd., Imperial Mills, Acorington.

London Showrooms: 147, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

SELFRIDGE'S

have 10,000 Coloured
Zephyr and Print

SHIRTS

Starched or Double-cuffs. Sizes 14-17½
Excellent quality.

Usually 3/6, 4/6, Now 2/3

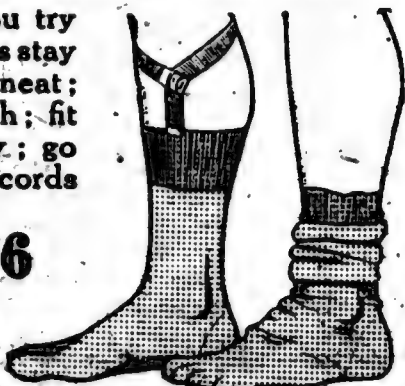
SELFRIDGE & CO., LTD., OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

Most Men Like Walker Grip Sock Suspenders

You will, too, if you try them. They always stay up, keeping socks neat; never chafe or pinch; fit the leg comfortably; go on in a second; no cords or pulleys.

1/- and 2/6

LOOK THEM OVER
at YOUR HOSIER'S



STALL'S BOOKS. BOOKS TO MEN.

By Sylvanus Stall, D.D.

What a Young Boy Ought to Know.

What a Young Man Ought to Know.

What a Young Husband Ought to Know.

What a Man of 45 Ought to Know.

Is. net per copy, postage 1d.
Send for table of contents.



Vir Publishing Co.,

2, Imperial Arcade, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

Bull's Eyes.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—

Has Turkey still a feather to fly with?
 Will leaving the Gaiety give Edmund Payne?
 Is the taxi-cab "strike" a terrible "blow"?
 How's that for high? See our First Prize on page 229.
 Are the "mysterious airships" flights of imagination?
 Isn't the opium traffic with China a "burning" shame?
 Would the Premier be annoyed if the Peers *passed* Home Rule?
 Was the Franchise Bill "dropped" because it was getting too hot?
 Why don't the Suffragettes show that they can govern—themselves?
 Aren't the doctors finding the Insurance Act a very "workable" one?
 Is "Breakers ahead" what the public may expect from the "fair" sex now?

MERELY RUMOURS:—

That the Insurance Panels are too highly coloured.
 That the real trouble in the Balkans is Room-mania.
 That the Unionist Party is governed by Law and order.
 That taxed food will prove ex-Austen to the Constitution.
 That "steps taken by The Powers" means walking into Turkey.
 That the suffragettes left no stone unturned in the Flint Boroughs.

EXAMINATION PAPERS:—

When a man lets himself go, is it wise to shut him up?
 Is it possible for a dumb man to utter counterfeit coin?
 Does a schoolboy prefer a box on the ear to a hamper on his knees?
 When the glass falls, why is it always the weather that is broken?
 When a man is rooted to the spot, is it correct to dig him in the ribs?
 If a young man helps a girl to alight, would she consider it a suitable match?
 State the difference between an Irish wake, a steamer's wake and a night-out wake.
 State the significance of down on the lip, down in the mouth, upside down, and the 1 a.m. down.
 A poetry shop has been opened. We hope it has some taking lines.
 Stage bacon is lino, we are told. But in some quarters it is the bare board.
 The dyers of Bradford are dyeing for a living wage, and they won't dye till they get it.
 Bank-notes were found in a pie sent as a New Year's gift. Not a cooked account, we hope.
 The wife of a compositor has given birth to triplets. A type that will take some composing.
 Tramps consider Sunday their best begging day. We could mention others of the same opinion.
 A Gloucester bank is to be rebuilt because it has been invaded by ants. They must be account-ants.
 A merchant has made a gift of a rubber floor to a Wesleyan Church. A rare consideration for the sleepers.
 "What will women cease to wear during the coming season?" asks a contemporary. We must wait—and guess.
 A man recently walked 800 miles for a bride. Nevertheless we have a suspicion that he was running after her.
 "Huge Corset Sale," says an advertisement in big capital letters. But ladies as a rule do not care for huge corsets.
 It is now possible to go for a two-hour cruise in a German airship. One of these times we fear the return tickets will be wasted.
 Fox-hunting is popular in Egypt. "When foxes fail there are always wild cats to fall back upon." The man who falls back on a wild cat will get up in a hurry.
 Chicago decrees that the dress of 1913 is to be hipless and curveless, with straight front and straight back. Ladies must now start planing off any portions of their anatomy which do not fit the specification.

"Bullets" Prizes to the Value of £1,655 in Cash Offered this Week.

"The English Character" is the name of a new book. Not bad.

"Romance of the Pill," reads a headline. The plot should be a moving one.

"Real rain" figures in a modern drama. Decidedly a genuine drop-scene.

Maeterlinck has completed his book on "Death." He must be a very solemn 'un.

The Hampstead burglars who were caught up a tree had rather a sorry come-down.

M. Faillières is eager to be among his vines again. The Presidential grapes are sour.

Money is undoubtedly a "root," and that is why it is so difficult to get with clean hands.

From the *Daily News*:—"News in French. *Vox populi*." Now that isn't news, and it isn't French.

The Balkan trouble is stated to have made nuts dearer. Have so many been cracked in the war?

"I suppose I must grin and bare them," remarked the musical comedy girl when she got her false teeth.

A doctor says it is hard to decide whether food or exercise is the greater necessity. We vote for money.

Los Angeles wants to tax lingerie. The victims will at least have something to show for their money.

An armless man has been sentenced in Philadelphia for picking a pocket. Apparently he put his foot in it.

The French bigamist who pleaded that he forgot all about his first wife couldn't have thought much of her.

Winston Churchill is having plenty of ships offered him, but the one he is really waiting for is the Premier-ship.

Of a man who died in Pentonville Prison it is said that his skull was so thin that it could be seen through. A bit thick.

Mr. George Edwardes may raise the price of his theatre seats, but it does not follow that the public will do the same.

A coroner marvels that no one has yet found a plan for keeping boys away from water. Easy; put a bit of soap by it.

In a recent shooting contest, the men triumphed over the women. This proves little, for, after all, what's in an aim?

The cuckoo has already been heard down in Devonshire. That's nothing; we also have a cuckoo clock up here in London.

Mr. Selfridge has discovered that "the best way to handle the fair sex is to let them have their own way." Has he just married?

A man charged with stealing pleaded that he had developed "an absolute craving for money." Of course, he had to take something for it.

In Germany a club has been formed by men who pledge themselves to eat nothing but earth. They must be full of grit already.

America is going to give us motor tyres made of wool, stronger and cheaper than rubber ones. Motto for the new motorist: Keep your wool on.

The girl students of a Munich cookery college who poisoned themselves with a dish of their own preparation must have made a "hash" of it.

A prisoner attempted to escape from Brixton by divesting himself of his clothing. The warders were just in time to prevent him taking himself off.

Eight million cubic feet of gas, it is said, escape daily from the mains between the factories and the consumers' meters. But, as usual, the consumer pays.

Cold and rainy weather has had a serious effect on the German vintage, the grapes being of hardly medium range, and lacking sugar. More sour grapes for Germany.

GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S!**£6 A WEEK FOR LIFE**

This week we offer two distinct Record Cash Prizes in another Football Skill Competition—a **FIRST PRIZE** of £6 a week for Life, guaranteed at Lloyd's, and a **SECOND PRIZE** of £600. All you have to do is to forecast the results of the League Games to be played on Saturday, March 1st, given on the Entrance Form on the inside of front cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw do not cross out either team.

We make no restrictive conditions, and **ABANDONED MATCHES WILL MAKE NO DIFFERENCE!**

To the Competitor who sends us an entrance form containing a correct forecast of all the matches played to a finish—even if the number be only 10 or 12—we shall award the first prize of £6 a week for Life.

In addition to the £6 a Week for Life we shall also award a Second Prize of the huge sum of

£600 IN CASH

to the competitor whose entrance form contains the next most correct forecasts. To make it quite clear.

AND
£600
This Time
TWO DISTINCT PRIZES.

The competitor succeeding in correctly forecasting the results of all the matches played to a finish will receive £6 a Week for Life,

GUARANTEED AT LLOYD'S.

In addition we shall still award £600 to the competitor whose coupon contains most correct forecasts, short of the full number of results.

You can send in as many entries as you like, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but every coupon must be signed in ink by its respective sender.

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of Competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

Study the form of the clubs named, exercise your skill and

SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES NOW.**Read These Rules Carefully.**

1. On the Entrance Form on the inside of front cover, cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," Pension Prize Competition, 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, February 28th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize of £6 a week for Life will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the *Sporting Life*, of all the matches given played to a finish on March 1st; and the Second Prize of £600 in cash will be awarded to the competitor whose coupon gives the next most correct forecasts. In any event the £600 must be won.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the First Prize of £6 a week for Life and the Second Prize of £600 will be equally divided.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28th.

No
RESTRICTIVE
CONDITIONS.

No
Goals
Required.

No
ENTRANCE
FEE.

You can
send in as
many coupons
as you like.

It having come to our knowledge that the coupons have been cut from John Bull and that the mutilated papers have afterwards been sold

THE COUPON
WILL BE FOUND
ON THE INSIDE
OF
FRONT COVER.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition turn to page 218, where you will find particulars of "Bull's," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £350 in cash is awarded this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other prizes to the value of £1,655.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag." AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.

AUTHORS and ARTISTS submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).

The EDITOR cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION should place their questions in CONCISE form and refrain from sending VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, at any rate, until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 216.

For Sporting Replies, see page 220.

Mrs. F. S. (W.).—We fear the elderly servant who can get only casual work at different places will have to pay 3d. a week or get her employers to pay it for her.

"READER AND ADMIRER" (Brighton).—Our Publishers have the matter under consideration. JOHN BULL commences printing on Monday, but the circulation is so large that it is at present possible to run off by Wednesday only sufficient copies to supply the demands of London and district. A good thing is always worth waiting for, is it not?

J. W. (Greenock).—Mr. Bottomley entered Parliament as an Independent Democrat—as he hopes to re-enter it some day.

"FLOREAT JOHANNES."—We cannot apologise for our "unfounded and scandalous statement concerning St. John's School, Leatherhead." Would willingly oblige if we could.

"INQUISITIVE" (Lowestoft).—We like everyone to "worship" in his own way. That is why we want all the churches, and other buildings in which men and women congregate for devotional purposes, to be in a healthy, sanitary condition.

H. P. (Rotherham) tells us of a man who was taken ill at Christmas, applied for a bed at the Sheffield Hospital, and had to wait a fortnight before he was admitted. Result: too late to recover from a serious operation. What say the management?

J. L. (East Ham) confirms our paragraph with reference to the training ship, *Mount Edgcumbe*. He had a son treated in a similar manner to the cases we have already placed on record.

G. H. Y. (Toronto).—We do not think the "blood and thunder" novelettes so largely patronised by schoolboys of all classes have such a pernicious influence as you suggest. We read them with avidity in our youth, yet we never felt an overmastering desire to run around shooting. In the main, these books are of a fairly healthy tone, vice being invariably punished and virtue triumphant in their pages.

Mrs. A. B. (Johannesburg).—We are thinking how we can give our readers in other countries a chance of entering our competitions.

EUSTACE MILES, the Nutman, pleads for business methods in our County Courts. That's a hard one to crack.

H. J. W. (Upper Clapton).—T. Stevens & Co., of Old Street and Fore Street, London, are workers of the "Bankrupt and Salvage Goods" dodge, which we have frequently exposed.

W. M. (Belfast) went "blacklegging" at the time of the strike in the city, and cannot get his pay. Better write to the head of the firm about it—or to the Strike Committee!

G. P. (E. C.).—You must get an introduction through a member of the Calcutta Turf Club.

W. A. B. (N.W.).—We cannot pillory the firm upon an *ex parte* statement. Where is your proof?

JACQUES S. (Wolverhampton).—We note your opinion that men who get girls into trouble should either be compelled to marry them or sent to gaol with hard labour. Hear, hear!

R. O. (S. Tottenham).—Give that alleged Harrogate money-lender plenty of room. Evidently it is *your* money he wants.

H. A. (Goldthorpe).—You are quite right in your assumption that Sir Walter Scott deserved a biscuit for saying in "Ivanhoe," Chapter VII., that: "The scene was singularly romantic. The form of the enclosure was in the form of an oblong square, save that the corners were considerably rounded off;" in fact, we hereby award his legal representatives two. Your other question is too remarkable for us to answer.

E. F. L. (Clapham Common, S.W.) has been waiting fifteen months for compensation for a lost registered postal packet, and asks if we can enlighten him on the subject. Alas, the mysterious workings of the G.P.O. under the control (we think that is the right word) of Mr. Herbert Samuel, are beyond even our understanding. Oh, for a B.G.P.O.!

W. S. (Parkstone) received a touting circular from a money-lender, considers it a direct insult, and asks us to put a stop to it. Certainly. Stop it, please.

M. H. (Harlesden).—It is true the police have no power to interfere with the proprietor of a penny bazaar who chooses to store and expose for sale celluloid articles, even if people do smoke and throw matches and lighted cigarette-ends about. The local authority has, no doubt, powers as to the provision of satisfactory means of egress in case of fire.

K. H. S. (New Brighton) asks us to thank Mr. M. Seymour, a Christadelphian crank, for an "enlightened" lecture he delivered at Liscard on the Balkan Crisis, in which he declared that the "unclean spirits like frogs," which, according to Rev. xvi. 13, "came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet," indicate France, "whose national emblem is the frog." We do not see how we can thank the lecturer without insulting our very good neighbour and ally, whose national emblem we have always understood to be the *fleur de lys*.

E. S. (St. Ives) writes:—

My dear John Bull

Your paper is full

Of wisdom and wit galore;

But I greatly regret

That my name hasn't yet

In your splendid prize list figured.

Ah; perhaps that is where our wisdom comes in. By the way, the last line appears to have met with an accident.

"ELECTRIC" (Bradford) purchased a Medical Coil (7s. 6d.) from the Universal Electric Supply Co., Brook Street, Manchester, which arrived without the illustrated instructions advertised to accompany it. He has written three times for them, as in their absence the coil is useless to him, but has received no reply. Now he appeals to us. All we can do is to suggest to the Universal Electric Supply Co. that it would be more creditable to them if they carried out the undertaking in their advertisement.

"SOPPER" (Bristol) tells us that soldiers in India are treated like dogs. He says a native may enter a public-house and have a drink, but white soldiers have to go about with their tongues hanging out, as they are forbidden to enter any public bar. But has not our friend ever heard of Kipling? This is what the soldier poet says about drink in the East:

"First mind you steer clear o' the grog-sellers' huts,
For they sell you 'Fixed Bay'nets' that rots out your guts.
Ay, drink that 'ud eat the live steel from your butts—
An' it's bad for the young British soldier."

Of course, Kip. no doubt managed to get a drop of the right sort o' stuff in the officers' mess—but that's another story.

T. W. (Harrow-on-the-Hill).—You should never burn any documents emanating from a Government office. In November, 1911, "Form 4" was declared to be illegal by the Court of Appeal, in the case of *Dysen v. Attorney-General*. You might point this out to the too zealous official.

C. T. J. (Kentish Town).—As you lost your case under the Workmen's Compensation Act on a question of fact—that is, as to whether you were or were not fit for your work again—you cannot appeal; but as you are a dock labourer, and, being minus a thumb, cannot properly grip things, we cannot understand how any doctor could so certify. What is his name and address?

J. A. (Tynemouth).—We note that you have taken half a pound of tea at 2s. 4d. per pound from Parker & Son, Newcastle, on the strength of a "guarantee," printed like a County Court summons, for a bonus of £5. We think your chance of the bonus remote.

Our Football Pension Prizes CAN be Won and we WANT them to be.

"DOUBTFUL" (Trowbridge).—Plant & Co., of Stockport Road, Manchester, are "Home Employment" tricksters, whom we have frequently exposed.

J. E. H. (Gloucester).—Do you really consider betting upon the number of seeds in a pumpkin a vice? The winner well deserves the money, and the man who counts them certainly should have a bit.

"THE WICK READERS" (Caithness) regret the discontinuance of our Barber's Chair series. We are sorry to say the Barber cut his thumb whilst trying to shave the chin bristles of a Labour M.P. recently. Provided lock-jaw does not supervene, we may shortly be able to report a further series of his conversations with celebrities.

E. N. (Dover) tries to make our flesh creep by pointing out that the Germans are buying Welsh smokeless coal in great quantities. We must not begrudge them a little decent fuel, else when "The Day" arrives they won't stand even a sporting chance.

C. A. L. (London) recently purchased a penny roll at one of Spiers and Pond's establishments, and putting it on the scales found it to weigh under 1½ ozs., thus working out at about 9d. per pound, which he thinks a high price to pay for bread. So it is. But he must remember that 1d. rolls come under the category of "fancy bread," which is considered to justify a fancy price.

"SPIDER" (Westminster) informs us that he advertised a dog for sale for 30s. last July, and had a reply from a man in West Wiltshire, saying "Send the dog on, and I will send money on its arrival." The dog was despatched, but up to a few weeks ago the money does not appear to have been. "Spider" will be a little more fly next time.

I. O. M.—You can obtain a copy of the will in which you are interested from the Probate Registry, Somerset House, Strand, W.C. The charge is sixpence per folio of ninety words.

"OLD SUBSCRIBER" (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—You may be "an old subscriber," but we are too old hands to take serious notice of anonymous letters containing veiled charges against individuals or institutions. If there is anything in what you say, collect some evidence and write us straightforwardly in your own name. You need not be afraid. We deal in confidential matters of far more importance than those you hint at.

"A WORKMAN" (Stoke-on-Trent).—You are quite right. Half-a-pound of bacon or cheese at 8½d. per lb. comes to 4½d., and the assistant has no legal right to refuse the farthing you offer and demand a halfpenny. Next time, try him with fourpence and a packet of pins.

"A READER" (Camberwell) complains of the long hours (nearly a hundred a week, and one Sunday off every three weeks) that assistants in the London fruit and greengrocery trade have to work on a munificent wage of from 20s. to 25s. a week, while M.P.'s get £400 a year for "doing next to nothing." He must not describe the voting of "rare and refreshing fruits" for the "parched lips of the multitude" as "doing next to nothing." However, think of the shoe leather Members wear out walking through the division lobbies.

G. G. (Cornwall) writes: "Would you oblige by giving me the name of the person who used the following words in connection with the Armenian massacre by Turks some years ago—'God damn the Sultan.' We are not absolutely clear who said it, but we know a lot of people who thought it."

J. G. S. T. (Cornwall) suggests that M.P.'s accepting the £400 honorarium should be fined a guinea each time they absent themselves from a sitting. We would rather pay the bulk of the present Members a guinea a sitting to keep away. It would be cheaper for the country in the end.

R. E. MACD. (Dublin) has favoured us with a seventeen-page letter about Irish affairs. Unfortunately, we have not got so much time for letter reading as he apparently has for writing, so we are regretfully compelled to take his lengthy communication as read. We hope we are not missing something good.

"A BUTCHER" (Anerley) complains that he has been a member of the Dew Drop Slate Club, Penge, for ten years, and during the last three years has been on the sick list only twice. He is now informed that he will not be admitted again. He is over 50 years of age. It appears that members are re-elected annually. The material part of the rule is:—"No one to be admitted a member who is under 18 or over 45 years of age a member attaining the age of 45 to be considered as under 45, if he has been a member for not less than three previous years." According to this rule we do not think the club can legally exclude him; at any rate, we should like to learn their reason for endeavouring to do so.

A. H. B.-P. (S. India) describes the easy lives of some missionaries living in his district, and urges English people to see after their own poor before they subscribe to foreign missions. That's what we've been preaching for years.

"VOCALIST" (Glasgow).—As you deposited the luggage in the cloakroom, and hold a receipt, you can sue the company for its return, or its value.

"ONE IN TROUBLE" writes us a pathetic letter to the effect that her husband is infatuated with a woman over forty, and leaves her and the children to struggle along the best they can, "while he is out round the lanes waiting round this dear little darling." We cannot mix ourselves up in other people's matrimonial troubles, else we might say, "Where is our whip?"

C. R. (S. Tottenham).—Having, as you state, been convicted, whether justly or not, on three occasions for illegal book-making, you could hardly expect Scotland Yard to grant you a taxi-driver's licence. It was 100 to 1 against. We are sorry for you, but do not agree that men suffering such disappointments as yours are justified in committing "outrageous acts" and making themselves criminals. Why make bad worse?

W. J. A. (Chagford) tells us of an applicant for membership of the Oddfellows, who, in reply to questions as to whether any of his relatives had died of cancer, consumption, &c., said that they "all died in good health." We see nothing particularly funny in this. Many a man, woman and child has died "in good health" since the advent of the motor-car.

"BISGOV" (Norbury).—It is your duty to see that your luggage is properly labelled, not the railway company's. In the circumstances, we doubt if you could legally recover anything. You certainly could not obtain damages for loss of business through the delay in the arrival of your samples. Better accept the offer and be more careful in future.

W. E. C. A. (S. London) assures us that it is the custom in some public-houses to serve up "swipes," or the drainings of used glasses, with a little fresh beer added to liven up the dead booze. If ever we caught anyone attempting to palm "swipes" off on to us, we should be strongly tempted to return swipe for swipe.

C. Q. (Leytonstone).—Not bad. Reminds us of the effort of the poet Slimmer, of the *Wilmington Morning Argus*: "The death angel smote Alexander M'Glue, and gave him protracted repose. He wore a check shirt and No. 9 shoe, and he had a pink wart on his nose. No doubt he is happier dwelling in space, over there on the evergreen shore. His friends are informed that his funeral takes place at precisely a quarter past four."

J. R. D. (Bexhill).—Trying to understand your letter has given us toothache. What do you mean by saying, "I believe you could by your journal by your readers lending its ear to the suggestion that women doctors for women would add to the great desire to common-sense Christianity"? Us no compranney.

M. (Southwark) sends us two small squares of cardboard which he found in a quarter-pound packet of tea, and asks us what they are. Make-weight, we presume. Pekoc-boo!

T. R. (North Ferrisby).—A young Danish maid who has been employed by you for about a year proposes to come to London with another girl. They have been invited by the Union Franco-Swiss (Langier & Co.), 59, Charlotte Street, Tottenham Court Road, W., to call on arrival, the letter saying: "We have written to a lady about you and your friend." We know nothing more of the Union Franco-Swiss than that it is registered by the L.C.C. Perhaps Miss Ethel Smith, Secretary, Girls' Friendly Society, 39, Victoria Street, S.W., would advise the girls what to do.

H. P. (Camberwell) says he is prepared to show us that the Post Office Home savings banks, sold at 3s., are quite useless, and that the money can be got out of them very easily by anybody. He very kindly offers to demonstrate how it can be done. If he could only reverse the process, we might succumb to his blandishments.

C. H. M. (Lagos).—Your letter in favour of the State maintenance of the superfluous child received. Do you really mean to tell us that any British mission funds sent to Nigeria are used in supplying green nightcaps for black babies?

E. J. A. (East Ham) sends us a vigorous, staccato letter of suggestions for prize competitions and some verses written in a sort of Scotch-Irish dialect, which we regret we are unable to entertain. He concludes by asking us not to think him weak, but to be merciful. Quite the opposite. His style is decidedly too strong for us. It is for him to be merciful, and refrain from writing us with such intense energy again. Has he by any chance taken an overdose of Brainine?

S. D. (Bolton).—Unless you have a special aptitude and many solicitor friends, we should certainly not advise you to go to the Bar. As we have before stated, it is a profession to which many are called but few are chosen. You can obtain full particulars from the Under-Treasurer, 2, Poultry Buildings, Temple, E.C.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

John Bull League Notes.

(By THE GENERAL SECRETARY).

THE BIRMINGHAM MEETING.

THE PRESIDENT'S GREAT OVATION.

Birmingham generally, and members of the local branch of the League in particular, are not likely to forget the wonderful meeting at the Town Hall last week. Although the evening was wet, a queue extending nearly half a mile gathered outside the hall long before the time for opening the doors. It went on increasing in size to such an extent that a special body of police had to be requisitioned to keep the streets clear. Meanwhile those who had been fortunate enough to secure tickets were being admitted at special entrances, and when, at length, all the doors were thrown open there was a great rush for seats, with the result that many persons were in danger of serious injury. With the help of a large body of stewards, however, the police managed to keep the crowd under control, until the message rang out from every door, "Hall full." Still people clamoured for admission, and all sorts of prices were offered for seats. Ultimately some two thousand disappointed persons had sadly to retrace their steps—and then for half-an-hour, prior to the arrival of the President, the vast audience (which presented a most striking picture—consisting, as it did, of every class of citizen) were regaled with organ recitals, and the singing of the inspiring League Songs by Mr. James Round, who was in excellent voice—the choruses being joined in heartily by the meeting. And what a meeting it was! There were Aldermen and Councillors; Clergymen and Nonconformist ministers; Solicitors, Accountants and other professional men; tradesmen and artisans—and any number of ladies. There was an air of great expectancy, and the whole place seemed charged with magnetism—to break out into a veritable hurricane of enthusiasm as Mr. Bottomley, calm and composed as ever, but with a somewhat more serious expression of countenance than usual, made his appearance on the platform, accompanied by the members of the local Committee of the League, by Mr. Richard Taylor (Vice-President of the South Hackney Branch, numbering upwards of 5,000 members) who made an ideal Chairman, and by the General Secretary, Mr. Houston. Mr. J. S. Elias, Mr. Bottomley's colleague on the directorate of JOHN BULL, and several other friends from London, were also present. It was obvious from the outset that the President was in magnificent form. Never has he been heard to better advantage. He carried everything before him—lifting the vast entranced audience off its feet. Penetrating wit, biting sarcasm, bitter irony, deep pathos, searching analysis, constructive statesmanship—every phase of the oratorical art in all its perfection. And, throughout it all, such an irresistible under-current of sound common sense that the whole audience was soon under the spell of the speaker. At times the attention was such that one could literally have heard a pin drop; at others the hall shook with merry laughter; then there would be a wet eye here and there, and the suppressed sounds which mark the deep emotion of a crowd; then would come rousing, reverberating cheers—such as are seldom heard even in Birmingham. On, on went the all-conquering man—preaching the new gospel of a Business Government, and long ere he sat down it was obvious that he had converted the bulk of his hearers. Forms of application for membership of the League were placed on the seats, and it was not surprising that after the meeting several hundred new members were secured. It was a truly wonderful performance—the best thing, in the opinion of many, that Mr. Bottomley has ever done. Throughout it all was the note of unquenchable optimism—the confidence of strength and victory. No public man understands the public as does our President. No one can draw such meetings as those which swarm around him. We all went home conscious of having heard a wonderful exposition of a wonderful gospel from a wonderful man. Mr. Bottomley could win any one of the Birmingham seats; but, after all, as one of the speakers remarked, the Editor of JOHN BULL is a greater man than an M.P.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MANCHESTER.—I have been unable to cope with the demand for tickets for the President's meeting on the 14th inst., at the Free Trade Hall. The scenes at Birmingham are sure to be repeated. I have placed a supply of tickets in the hands of the following gentlemen, who will deal with applications in strict rotation. Messrs. J. Robinson, 95, Percival Street, C.O.M.; H. Killip, 26, Pembroke Grove, C.O.M.; E. Wright, 5, Brierley Avenue, Higher Ardwick; J. W. Bolton, 29, Alderman Street, Ardwick; F. Sternberg, 118, Lloyd Street, Greenheys; T. G. McEvoy, 6, Chapel Street, Hulme; H. Mason, 38, Upper Moss Lane, Old Trafford; G. Goodwill, 22, Manchester Street, Salford; J. Green, 48, Harrison Street, Pendleton; H. C. Robins, 89, Nicholas Road, C. cum H.; B. Hodgson, 30, Moreton Avenue, Stretford; F. J. Atkinson, "Winfield," Barker's Lane, Ashton-on-Mersey; and A. Radcliffe, 89, Lees Street, Gorton. In each case a stamped and addressed envelope should be forwarded. I shall arrive at the Grosvenor Hotel on Friday next, the 7th inst., and shall be pleased to see any of our members and friends. The local Secretary still requires another fifty stewards for the meeting.

GLASGOW.—Applications for tickets for the President's meeting continue to pour in. I shall meet the demand as far as possible, but at the same time must reserve a portion of the hall for the general public, who will be able to obtain admission at 7.30 p.m. upon the production of the current copy of this journal.

BRISTOL.—The local Secretary is holding another Whist Drive at the Queen's Hotel on February 26 in order to bring the members together prior to the President's visit to the Colston Hall. The last Drive was acknowledged to be the best ever held in the city. Mr. Frankham, the local Secretary, will be pleased to hear from old members who have changed their addresses. His address is The College, Westbury-on-Trym. Tickets may also be obtained from Messrs. B. G. Brown, 4, Rozel Road, Horfield; G. T. Clements, 234, Newfoundland Road; S. Cleak, 11, Argyle Road, St. Paul's; A. E. Savory, 24, Anglesea Place, Clifton; and also of the local Chairman, Mr. M. Waldron, 9, Devon Road, Fishponds. All the money obtained as the result of the event will be devoted to the local funds of the League. The local Treasurer, Mr. G. T. Clements, has recently removed to the address given above, and requests that all members should send their annual subscriptions and donations to him.

ABERDEEN.—The local branch will hold its Annual General Meeting on Monday, February 24, at the Vegetarian Café, Broad Street, at 8 p.m. The election of officers and committee will take place, and other important business will be transacted. The local Secretary, Mr. A. T. Fairweather, of 43, Wallfield Crescent, writes that the membership has increased fifty per cent. during the last twelve months.

DUNDEE.—Following the example of all the other Scottish branches, Dundee is still going strong. The branch will hold a meeting on Monday, February 10, at 8.15 p.m., in Wallace's Rooms, St. Clement's Lane. The local Secretary asks me to state that the order of the local campaign will be settled at this meeting, and hopes that members will turn out in full force. Will those who have changed their addresses during the last twelve months kindly notify Mr. D. Ballingall, of 69, Dens Road?

LEEDS.—The Annual Meeting of the Leeds Branch will be held on Thursday, 13th inst., at the Grand Central Hotel, Briggate, Leeds. Business will commence prompt at 8 p.m. The meeting will proceed to elect officers and committee for the ensuing year. All members are particularly requested to attend. The local Secretary, Mr. D. A. Macdonald, of 24, Savile Place, Chapeltown Road, requests that nominations for the Committee be handed to him not later than 10th inst. The chair will be taken by Mr. Reginald Knight. An excellent musical programme has been arranged, and includes all the local favourites. I hope to be present and have a few words with the members.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

In view of the extraordinary demand for seats at the meetings now being addressed by the President in various parts of the country, it has been decided to make a nominal charge of one shilling for the reserved seats—and to hand the proceeds over to the funds of the local branches. At Birmingham, last week, several thousand tickets could have been sold, and it is thought that, as pioneers of a Business Government, such a source of revenue should not be neglected.

Two Distinct Prizes—£6 a Week for Life and £600 in Cash.

HOW MANY CONSUMPTIVES ARE RESTORED TO HEALTH.

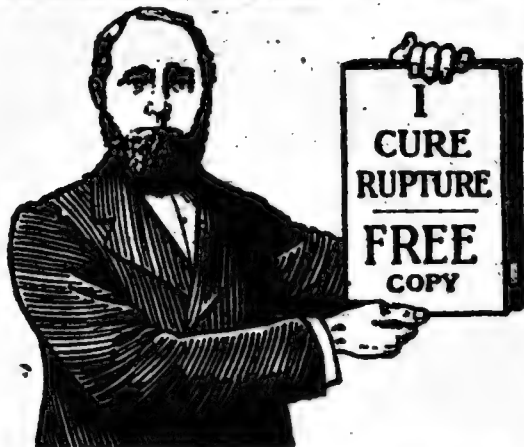
The following valuable prescription, written by an eminent specialist, has enabled many lung sufferers to cure themselves in their own homes, without the use of powerful drugs or necessitating a change of climate. This recipe quickly relieves the cough, and has a strong tonic effect which gives renewed strength to those who have become weak through prolonged illness. It can easily be prepared at home, and the treatment pursued quietly under natural conditions.

From your chemist get 1 oz. Peppermint (Double Strength), 2s. 6d. worth. Take this home and add to it 1 pint of hot water and 4 ozs. granulated sugar. Stir until dissolved. Take 1 tablespoonful 4 times a day. This prescription has a wonderful soothing and healing effect upon the lungs, and its quick action has enabled many to regain health and strength after their case had seemed hopeless. Every person who has the slightest tendency towards lung troubles should try this recipe—there is nothing better.

WHY WEAR A TRUSS? I CURE RUPTURE.

Send for a Free Test, Copy of my Book, and Particulars of MY £100 GUARANTEE.

This is not a wild statement made by an irresponsible individual. It is an absolute genuine and unvarnished fact, which will gladly be vouched for by scores of cured people, not only in Great Britain, but also on the Continent and abroad. When I say cure, I do not simply mean that I supply a truss, pad, or other appliance which is to be worn continually by sufferers in order to keep their Ruptures in place. I mean that my system enables the ruptured to discard all such irritating encumbrances, and makes the part as well and strong as it was before the rupture occurred.



My book, copy of which I will gladly send you free, explains fully how you may cure yourself, without pain or inconvenience, by this system. I discovered it after I had suffered myself for years with double rupture, which the doctors said was incurable. It cured me, and I felt that it was bound my duty to give the whole world at large the benefit of my discovery, with the result that for many years now I have been curing rupture in all parts of the globe.

You will probably be interested to receive with the Free Book and Test signed testimonials from a few out of the many cured patients. Do not waste time and money in trying to obtain elsewhere what my discovery offers, as you will only be incurring disappointment. Just sit down and fill in the coupon at the foot of this announcement, post it to me, and the Book, Copy of my Guarantee Test, and the particulars you need will reach you promptly. Please send no money whatever.

FREE TEST COUPON.

CAPT. W. A. COLLINGS & SONS (Box 110),
32, Theobalds Road, London, W.C.

DEAR SIR,—Send me Free the Information and Test, that I may cure my Rupture.

NAME
ADDRESS

GOOD POSITIONS

can always be found for men with Special Ability. There are hundreds of men with Special Aptitude for a certain class of work who are in positions where that Aptitude has no scope, and is accordingly not appreciated or properly paid for. We want such men. If you are one of them and can prove that you are capable of filling a Responsible Position, write us to-day—or call.

HARGOODS, Ltd., Employment Experts, 167-168, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

HOW WE CURE RHEUMATISM



Torturing, grinding, rasping pains,—let it come in the guise of sciatica, muscular or inflammatory rheumatism, lumbago—we can cure it.

You know that rheumatism is caused by uric acid in the blood, but do you know how the uric acid gets there? We'll tell you.

A portion of the food you eat is turned into new blood. Now this blood is bound to contain impurities such as uric acid. It is the business of the kidneys to filter the blood and remove all impure matter. Well, when the kidneys fail to do their work properly, the uric acid remains in the blood and becomes more and more poisonous until the torturing pains of rheumatism are the result.

You might doctor the blood for ever with drugs and medicine, but you can't purify it that way. You've got to find the cause and remove it—find something that will make the kidneys purify the blood.

Electricity is the power that runs every organ in your body. The reason the kidneys fail to do their work is because they are weak from a lack of electricity. Electricity as produced by the "Ajax" Battery will give new vigour to the kidneys. It provides them with energy, and dissolves the uric acid, and drives it through the circulation, back to the kidneys, which in their new-born vigour are now able to cleanse the blood of its poison and free the tissues for ever from the disease—rheumatism.

No pain can exist in a body charged with electric life. You can have no rheumatism, no weakness, no inactive parts, because the life generated by this grand force gives health and strength to every organ.

EIGHTY PAGE BOOK FREE.

We will send this book, with illustrations, free to anyone who will send us his, or her, name and address. Write for it now, to-day, while you have it in your mind—if you cannot call for a free test.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE,
(Dept. 41). 25, Holborn Viaduct, LONDON, E.C.

THE
PUREST

BORWICK'S
BAKING POWDER

THE
STRONGEST

KEMO RAZOR SHARPENER

Converts your old strip into a perfect edge-producer—solves the problem of shaving in comfort every day without the slightest smarting of the skin—is easily applied and will last as long as a man needs a razor—price 6d. Kemo Straps in fine leather, specially prepared with Kemoline, 2s., 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d.



KEMO CO., 17,
Billiter St., London.

For all Kinds of Razor Blades

CITY NOTES.

[For Financial and Insurance Letter-Box, see page 216.]

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.

As announced last week, important developments are taking place in connection with this Company. We have already mentioned that a powerful American group of financiers are busily engaged taking up ground in the vicinity of the Company's properties, and we are given to understand that they propose to commence active boring operations at an early date—the effect of which cannot fail to have an immense bearing on the value of the shares. We are further informed that Mr. J. E. Mills Davies, A.I.M.M., of *The South African Mining Journal*, Johannesburg, one of the most esteemed authorities in South Africa, and perhaps the leading authority there on the geology of oil, has undertaken the responsibility of advising the Company professionally, and is proceeding to the Ceres district for the purpose of selecting boring sites. It will be remembered that Mr. Mills Davies has already stated, in reference to the iridescent films seen in the district, that he investigated the question fully, with the result that he was satisfied that “their origin from hydrocarbon gaseous or oily compounds derived from petroleum is a matter that cannot be doubted.” The fact that Mr. Mills Davies is prepared to back his opinion and identify himself so closely with the fortunes of the Company speaks volumes for its future, and we heartily congratulate those members of the public who have followed our advice to acquire shares in the undertaking. We understand that the Company is proposing to extend its operations to other districts of Africa where there is reason to believe that large profits may be obtained from shale and other deposits. We observe with interest that the campaign against this concern, which certain interested parties endeavoured to organise, has now collapsed, and we reiterate our opinion that the shares constitute the most attractive speculation in the market at the present time. Readers desirous of further information should communicate with the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Ltd., 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C.

Gray's Latest Curio-sity.

Life is too short and our space too limited to permit of a full and detailed exposure of the South Terras Mines ramp, which Frank Sherwood Gray is at present conducting with the assistance of certain of our contemporaries. Four years ago, Gray was the representative in Great Britain of the Sterling Debenture Corporation, an American flat-trap, the directors of which are, at the present moment, awaiting their trial in New York on charges of defrauding the public. Shortly after, Gray was mixed up with the Hawthorne Silver and Iron Mines, Ltd., another Yankee swindle. Arthur W. Wells, of 16, St. Helen's Place, E.C., was one of the London directors and the secretary of the concern, and is a director of Gray's Radium Ore Mines, Ltd., and of the South Terras Mines, Ltd. The American directors of the Hawthorne Silver and Iron Mines, Ltd., are now undergoing trial in New York on charges of defrauding the public. Eighteen months ago, Gray was peddling out shares in a private company called the Saint George Association, Ltd., the object of which appears to have been to cure people addicted to the drug habit. Gray and Wells were two of the directors of the Association, of which nothing has since been heard.

When Gray started this Radium Ore Mines ramp, he used the name of Sir William Ramsay without any authority, and the directors repudiated the prospectus, Mr. Walter Wysard promptly resigning from the board. Gray also circulated what he described as “introductions from each of the five leading newspapers of the United States to British Investors.” Each of the newspapers concerned repudiated the letters. Upon this fake being exposed, Gray offered to return the subscriptions to dissatisfied subscribers. The offer was largely accepted, several firms of solicitors being engaged in recovering subscriptions from him. Only a few days ago, a petition was presented for the compulsory winding-up of the company, but it was dismissed without costs, the judge holding that the petitioners had failed to show that the substratum of the company had gone. His latest exploit, the South Terras Mines, Ltd. (*Société Industrielle du Radium, Ltd.*), is another attempt on the part of Gray to exploit the British public; but we have no doubt that, after what we have said, our readers will have none of it.

The Hon. Col. H. V. Duncombe, D.S.O.

In reference to our recent comments on this gentleman's connection with one of the notorious Edmund Eaton's wild cat schemes, we have received a letter from Mr. Henry C. Anstey, solicitor, of 329, High Holborn, W.C., in which he informs us that Col. Duncombe has resigned his directorship of all companies with which he has been associated although his connection with those companies has been of a very short duration, as “he feels things have occurred without his knowledge, and which he was in no way morally responsible for and which also met with his strongest disapproval when they came to his knowledge.” In our opinion, Col. Duncombe has adopted the only course open to an officer and a gentleman, and we can but regret that he did not make full enquiries before allying himself with Edmund Eaton, and allowing his name to be exploited for the purpose of hoodwinking the public.

The Law Guarantee Trust Scandal.

The result of the recent meeting, when the liquidators met the shareholders for the purpose of laying before them an account of their stewardship, proved quite inconclusive so far as the agitation for compulsory liquidation is concerned. The chief difficulty which shareholders desiring a public enquiry into this failure have to overcome is that one of the liquidators is Sir William Peat, a gentleman of such high and honourable standing that no Court could be expected to supersede him on the ground that the interests of creditors and shareholders were not adequately protected. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that a liquidator under a voluntary winding-up, no matter how unimpeachable his character, is not in a position to take those steps which are absolutely necessary in the public interest to obtain a judicial decision as to the culpability of those who are suspected of having brought this company to ruin. When we remember, as first disclosed in these columns, that the auditors of the company compromised their civil liability towards shareholders by the payment of the sum of £20,000—having first insured themselves against liability—and when it is now found that the Committee of Inspection have been prevented from investigating the affairs of the Surveyor's (lucky Mr. F. J. Ronald!) and Accountant's departments, the urgency of pressing forward the demand for compulsory liquidation, on these heads alone, cannot be disputed. And there are others!

NEW ISSUES.

Chilian Government Annuities.

An issue of £1,148,945 five per cent. annuities, guaranteed by the Chilian Government—but not the sort of investment which we can recommend. We do not regard the Republic of Chili as one of the most stable in the world.

Burn Bros. of New York.

Apparently a fairly prosperous firm of coal merchants, who want about £400,000 more capital by way of seven per cent. preference shares. Can't they get it in New York?

Terminal Cities of Canada.

An offer of about £500,000 six per cent. “notes,” repayable in 1915—of course, assuming that no serious rupture in our relations with Canada occurs in the meantime!

Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway Co.

Another impudent issue. The present share capital is just over £12,000,000 and the Company is already debentured to the extent of £14,250,000. And it is now proposed to add another million of five per cent. debentures. No prudent investor should touch them.

Manila Railway Co. (1906).

As rotten an issue as we have come across for many a day. Three-quarters of a million of debentures, on the top of an issue of £2,000,000 of “A” and nearly £2,000,000 of “B” debentures, and a very small margin of net revenue to provide the interest—which is “guaranteed by the Government of the Philippine Islands”! Messrs. Speyer Bros. had better take it themselves.

City of Winnipeg Loan.

More Canada! It seems to us that we are gradually buying the Dominion. But the price is too high.

Albert E. Reed & Co. (Newfoundland).

An offer of £100,000 5½ per cent. debentures in a Newfoundland Paper Company, guaranteed by the English firm of the same name—in view of which fact the investment is doubtless quite safe.

Have You caught the “Bullets” Craze? See page 218.



AN IMPERIAL ENTERPRISE.

"We may look forward to an African Petroleum Trade with the World. Great volumes of "Oil ooze from the earth in many places, and this wondrous country is just as likely to fill the "pockets of its exploiters with millions of money got from Oil as from any other undeveloped "product," says a recent Cape Government publication.

The occurrence of Petroleum in many parts of South Africa is an established fact ; but no systematic or scientific attempt has yet been made to prove its existence in payable quantities.

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD., has recently been formed with a capital of £250,000 divided into shares of £1 each, for the purpose of seriously exploiting, for the first time, these known Oil regions.

The Company has provided for a working capital of £50,000, and has acquired exclusive rights for working Oil and all other Minerals, for a period of ten years, over 150 square miles in the Ceres district, Cape Province—together with the option of acquiring the freehold of the properties at any time during that period.

Eminent Oil Experts have examined the ground and certified to its petroliferous character.

"The Guide to South and East Africa," issued by the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited, says:—"The chain of hill-encircled plains near and to the north of Ceres undoubtedly "contain deposits of the mineral (Petroleum) in question. It is only found in payable quantities "in places where the later deposits of rock have remained practically undisturbed by the intrusion "of igneous matter, conditions which are fulfilled in this locality."

These remarks refer to the identical locality in which the Company's lands are situated.

The operations of the Company will not be confined to the Ceres district.

The imports of Oil into South Africa exceed in value £500,000 per annum.

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority, its £1 shares may at any moment attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone.

The value of the other Mineral rights is being investigated, and, according to present information, is likely to prove sensational.

The pioneers of the new industry are the **South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Limited**, of 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C., from whom full particulars of the Company and all further information may be obtained.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

CONTINENTAL LOTTERIES.—LOTTERY.—We have no special information in regard to the firm you mention. The address of Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co. is 10, Place de la Bourse, Paris.

CENTRAL CHELEKEN OIL FIELDS.—ISLANDER.—We regard this as a good purchase. We should not advise transactions with the firm you mention.

OIL AND GENERAL SHARE EXCHANGER.—BEN BEN.—A very respectable firm, which we are sure will duly fulfil any obligations it enters into.

B. C. TIMBER.—CANADIAN.—Very little information is available as regards this concern, and the prospects are not alluring, and we doubt whether better things will be obtained under the proposed amalgamation. It is a pity you did not make your inquiries before investing your money.

EASTMANS.—P. E. (Bootle).—Coming events often cast their shadows before, and it looks as if there will be some dividend disappointment. It is hard to advise you to sell after the decline, but if there should be any temporary recovery, you should certainly do so. Such highly speculative shares are not a suitable holding for very small investors.

4 TO 5 PER CENT. INVESTMENTS.—CORONA.—The investments in question are quite suitable for your purpose, and they can be placed in the following order:—West Australian 3½ per cent. Inscribed (1); Midland Railway Preferred (2); Brazil 4 per cent. Loan (3); City of Vancouver 4 per cent. Stock (4); City of Rio de Janeiro 4½ per cent. Bonds (5); and London and South Western Bank (6).

WEST AUSTRALIAN: RHODESIAN.—L. L. (Oban).—Lake Views have fair prospects, especially now that all the low-priced West Australians are being given a run. Willoughbys have many irons in the fire, some of a promising character, but the course of these shares is bound up entirely with the Rhodesian market generally.

INDUSTRIAL PREFERENCES.—F. S. C. (Birmingham).—Your selection is a satisfactory one—viz., Argentine Tobacco Prefs., Scottish Iron and Steel Prefs., Greenwich Linoleum Prefs., and Mappin and Webb Prefs. The other part of your letter has been replied to by post.

CHARING CROSS BANK.—A SUFFERER.—We sympathise with you, but the trustees are the only persons who can tell you this. Why not communicate with them?—C. T. G. (Woking).—See above. Everything apparently depends upon the realisation of the Canadian assets, but we are afraid we cannot hold out much hope of a substantial return. The trustees are Sir W. B. Peat and Sir Wm. Plender and the offices are 28, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C.

£700 INVESTMENT.—H. H. H. (Birmingham).—You can make a good selection for investment from the various stocks mentioned in reply to Corona and F. S. C., above. As regards trustee investment, you can get 3½ per cent. in India 2½ per cent. at 65, and in Western Australia 3½ per cent. at 92. The Industrial Company mentioned is a progressive concern, but you should never place too many eggs into one basket.

£1,000 INVESTMENT.—W. P. (Walthamstow).—You cannot get 5 per cent. per annum on absolutely trustee stocks, but the following should be a suitable selection for yielding the required sum:—Japanese 1907 5 per cent. Loan at 100, Brighton Railway Preferred at 125; Grand Trunk Second Preference at 99; and Lake Superior Corporation 5 per cent. First Mortgage Bonds at 100.

INVESTMENT OF SAVINGS.—R. J. (Swansea).—We advise you to apply to one of the leading Insurance Companies, who will probably be able to offer you the best terms.

£70 to £80.—E. H. (Glasgow).—Why not put the money into some oil shares, such as Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, which have a fair prospect of a rise by the time mentioned?

WALKERS PARKER "A."—SPENCER (Leeds).—It is understood that the Company has done better lately, but these are obviously highly speculative, and you should not put too much money into them.

5 PER CENT. INVESTMENT.—AN OLD READER.—Instead of the stock mentioned, you might buy either of the following securities:—Anglo-Newfoundland Development Co 5 per cent. First Mortgage Debenture at 102½; Buenos Ayres and Pacific 5 per cent. 1912 Debenture at 105; or Callender's Share and Investment Trust 5 per cent. First Mortgage Debenture at 102.

RUBBERS.—A. D. P. (Portobello).—The position and prospects of this concern will be gathered from the fact that the price is quite nominal at 6d. and 9d. per share. No recent information is available, but the secretary of the Company should be able to give you the latest news.

PROPERTY INSURANCE Co.—C. B. (Abercarn).—A sound and progressive office.

NATIONAL COMMERCIAL INSURANCE Co.—SOFT.—You are liable for the calls in any event. We understand that negotiations are on foot for the acquisition of the business by another Company.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER INDUSTRIAL ASSURANCE Co.—L. I. (Birmingham).—You inform us that in 1907 your mother effected an assurance on the life of her mother, the sum assured being £12, at a premium of 1s. 6d. per week. In March, 1911, your mother handed over the policy to you, instructing you to keep up the premium payments, which you have done.—Your mother died in October, 1912. Wishing to emigrate to Australia, you applied for a cash Surrender Value, and you have been offered £2 for the £6 6s. you have personally contributed. In respect of this assurance of £12, premiums have been paid amounting to nearly £20. You must decide for yourself whether you will accept the £2 or forfeit all. We fear you have no remedy. No provision is made in the con-

ditions of the assurance for the issue of a Free Fully-paid up policy, or the payment of a cash Surrender Value, in the event of the premiums being discontinued. Any consideration, therefore, extended to assurers in relation to these features is a matter entirely within the discretion of the directors.

SUN LIFE INSURANCE Co OF CANADA.—MONTREAL.—We understand that this Company has made great progress during 1912, and, in fact, it claims to have had a record year. It specialises in annuity business, and is a sound and progressive institution.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE Co.—408648.—We have examined the five policies and receipt books. The free policy is in order, the legal claimant being G. H. The two Infantile policies in the name of A. J. H. are issued for his benefit as the proposer. In the event of a claim arising, the sum assured is payable to the parents or guardians, executors or administrators of the proposer. As regards the policies issued to J. H., he is described as the proposer, and the legal interest therefore vests in him. Should a claim by death arise the amount is payable to the executor or administrator of the said proposer. If Mrs. H. is paying the premiums on the whole of these policies she had better get the Company to recognise her as the legal claimant. This being done, Mrs. H. could then by will or otherwise direct that any benefits accruing under the policies should go to the person or persons she may name. The policies being for small amounts, the cost of contesting their legality on the ground that the proposer in each case is Mrs. H. and not the person in whose name the policies have been issued would be very considerable, and is not worth risking. In all the circumstances, the best way out of the difficulty is to get the Company to recognise Mrs. H. as the person legally entitled to receive the sums assured.

HOUSE PURCHASE WITH ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE.—H. P. (Portsmouth).—The combination of Life Assurance with House Purchase is an excellent way of investing one's savings to the best advantage. We like the "Ideal" policy of the City Life Assurance Company, which gives house purchase benefits, and also provides for cash Surrender Values, Fully Paid-up policies, and other advantages, in the event of unforeseen circumstances arising. Moreover, the policy is world-wide and indisputable, and in our opinion constitutes an "Ideal" investment. The Head Office address is 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, London, E.C.

LOYAL ORDER OF ALFRED.—EDGBASTON.—If the policy states that "sick pay" was a condition of membership, and your father was not informed of the discontinuance of this particular benefit, or did not assent to its withdrawal, we are of opinion that the consideration for which the contributions have been paid has failed, and that he could legally recover them. You had better make a demand through a solicitor for return of all monies paid.

COLONIAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—ANXIOUS (Scotstown).—An enquiry asked for by shareholders, supported by the directors, has been granted by the Victorian Government. It is reported that the Society has been somewhat hardly dealt with by the Legislative Assembly, owing to an error of judgment, and apparently a good deal of sympathy with the management has been evoked in Australian circles. It is anticipated that the first Progress Report will establish the Society's financial stability. Meanwhile, you had better keep the policy going.

ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INSURANCE SOCIETY.—AGENT.—The case as you present it is somewhat complicated. From what you say, however, it is clear that you made a bad bargain in purchasing a book from an old friend, paying him £60 down out of your hard-earned savings and obtaining a loan for the balance of the purchase money from the Central Investment Company, which you inform us is attached to Royal London House. The amount of this loan is £116 5s., upon which you are charged interest at the rate of 10 per cent. Your complaint appears to be that you paid 30 times for every debit, believing the collections would produce to you a commission of 25 per cent., instead of which, under certain tables, the commission ranges from 7½ per cent. to 12½ per cent. You cannot, of course, hold the Company responsible, and we fear you have no legal redress, unless you can prove fraudulent misrepresentation at the time you purchased the book. In any event, however, we are of opinion that the selling of books, if permitted at all, should only be made under the supervision of the Company concerned, who would fix the saleable value so as to prevent too high a price being paid for "debit purchase," such as appears to have happened in your case.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE Co.—K. B. (Manchester).—It is legal for you to have insured the lives of your husband and son, although you have done so without their knowledge. As you are arranging to go to Australia, you had better write the Head Office of the Company, and ascertain if they would be willing to accept the surrender of the policies by paying you a cash value, or, in the alternative, issue to you free fully-paid policies for such amount as they may determine. Unless the Company will meet you on the lines we have suggested, you are helpless in the matter, and must either keep on paying or forfeit the premiums already paid.

REFUGE ASSURANCE Co.—F. C. (Rotherham).—We should accept the Free paid-up policy for a reduced amount. You cannot claim a Cash Surrender Value, as no provision is made in the conditions of assurance for any such payment.—ANXIOUS (Barnstaple).—You have no legal title to the policy.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE Co.—G. R. (Manchester).—Your father must continue paying, although he has paid more than he will receive. He could, of course, obtain a free policy, but it would not be for the full amount, or anything like it. The only people who can discontinue payments and receive the full amount due on policies are those who are 75 years of age and upwards, and have paid 25 years' premiums. J. R. B. (Barnsbury).—We do not consider the investment in question would be a good one, as it only works out at about 1½ per cent. Moreover, if at any time during the fifteen years you should be unable to continue the payments, you would lose very heavily, as the surrender value is small. You are under no obligation to pay, even though you have signed the proposal form.

(A number of replies are held over.)

A Fascinating Pastime with Money in it—"Bullets." See page 218.



The House with the
Colonnade.

Take advantage of the GREAT SALE IN Southampton Row

£100,000 worth of Furniture going at Bargain Prices.

There is no time to lose. The end of the Sale is in sight. There are still hundreds of genuine bargains to be obtained, but the vast stock is gradually disappearing. Don't miss this opportunity. Remember that every article can be purchased on our Ideal Payment System (see terms below).

Hours—
9 till 8.

Sats. 9 till 1.



Bedroom Suite in Oak
complete with two
rush-seated chairs.
£5 . 12 . 6

Terms.		
Worth.	Per Month.	
£10 ...	£0 6 0	10% Discount for Cash.
£20 ...	0 11 0	
£50 ...	1 8 0	No Charge for Credit.
£100 ...	2 5 0	
£200 ...	4 10 0	
£500 ...	11 5 0	

Or by any proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.

Goods bought during Sale stored free of charge for six months. Country Customers' fares to town paid on all orders of £20 or over. Country orders packed and delivered free. Our Second-Hand Department alone contains over £10,000 worth of Furniture. Special weekly Catalogue sent free on request.

Send for special Sale Bargain Catalogue.

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.

15 to 23 Southampton Row,

Holborn, London, W.C.



Really charming Inlaid Mahogany
Sheraton style desk with
brass rail and silk curtain at back.
£7 . 5 . 0

£12,000

FOR BULLETS ALREADY AWARDED.

This week we are again awarding **£350** for the best Bullet received, in addition to **OVER 5,000** cash and other valuable prizes.

FIRST PRIZE - - - £350

PRIZES
VALUE

£1,655

SECOND PRIZE - - - £50

THIRD PRIZE - - - £10.

Ten Prizes of £2 10s. each.

A Large Number of £1 and 10s. Prizes,
200 Prizes of 7/6

AND

5,000 OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES.

PRIZES
VALUE

£1,655

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:-

MY BETTER HALF
GOOD HEALTH
HER NEW DRESS
A SPINSTER
PENILESS
STAR TURN
ARM IN ARM
MOST IMPROBABLE

WET NIGHT
BEAUTY DOCTOR
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
MUSTARD PLASTER
SUFFRAGE BILL
BIRMINGHAM
SECOND READING
THE YOUNG TURKS

DOING WELL
PERHAPS
CABINET PUDDING
TUG OF WAR
BY GEORGE
NOBODY
MY AMBITION
UNDER HER THUMB

SMALL BEER
FOR LIFE
FOUL PLAY
SHADY PLACE
MAKES ME GLAD
TOMMY
HARDY ANNUAL
BACK DOOR

SWANK
BAD OMEN
ALL A DREAM
SLEEPING DRAUGHT
EMIGRATION
THE OPPOSITION
POLICE CONSTABLE
JOHN BULL LEAGUE

IMPORTANT.

EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "MOST IMPROBABLE" and choose the letters "S" and "G" using the word "NAVY" as the middle word, you can form the Bullet, "BRITISH NAVY SCRAPPED." Or from the example, "GOOD HEALTH," the Bullet, "EVERYBODY'S DESIRE," can be formed. Again, if you take the example, "SWANK" and choose the letter "S" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "SOMETIMES PROVES SUCCESSFUL."

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence. But if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(19) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

Closing date, Wednesday, Feb. 12th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(19) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____

Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.
ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 19," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

"BULLETS" RULES (which must be strictly adhered to).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prize in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on this page, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending

- more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, February 12th.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

RESULT OF SIXTEENTH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £300:—

E. GOULD,
28, Angel Road, Brixton, London, S.W.
Example:—(CAN BE BEATEN.
Bullet:—ENGLAND'S DANGEROUS AXIOM.

SECOND PRIZE OF £25:—

J. BRIDGES,
32, Pileston Terrace, Perth, Scotland.
Example:—FIVE POUNDS.
Bullet:—FATHER SAID, "SEASON."

THIRD PRIZE OF £10:—

J. DOHERTY,
31, Grove Park Road, Tottenham, London, N.
Example:—THROGMORT H STREET.
Bullet:—GARDEN OF "MOSES."

TEN Prizes of £2 10s. awarded as follows:—

£2 10s. each to:—
F. R. LLOYD, Cransley House, Cheddard Road, Taunton
1. DON'T THINK—DIFFIDENCE "WINSTON'S" TROUBLE;
S. SMITH 13, Englefield Road, Dalston, N. (HER CONSENT—
NECESSARY EVER SINCE); H. GERNAT, 151, High Street,
Hampton Hill, Middlesex (STRONG MAN—ONE WHO "NOIS");
ELIZA CALLEN FOX, Mottisfont, London Road, Davizes, Wilts
WALKING OUT—WHERE'S THE "ARM"?; A. E. PEARCEY, 23,
Hill Street, Upper Gornal, near Dudley (GREAT MISFORTUNE—
ROAD SAVED FLEAS); C. F. LOWEN, 273, Norwood
Road, Herne Hill, S.E. (WHEN TWINS ARRIVE—HUSBAND
DEMANDS RECOUNT); Wm. T. RAMSAY, 37, Rosburn Terrace,
Edinburgh (THROGMORTON STREET—OFFERS "CAPITAL"
OUTLETS); Wm. WALKER, 65, Wayland Road, Sheffield (MOST
RELIABLE—ABUSED NATURE'S METALATION); B. BARRY,
11 Horton Moor Road, Stockport (WHEN TWINS ARRIVE—
TWO "BARE" REALITIES).

£2 10s. divided between:

JAS. STATTARD, 49, Commercial Road, Hazel Grove, Stock-
port (GREAT MISFORTUNE—ADAM HAD RIBS); R. SHAKESHAFT,
3, Strathbrook Road, Streatham, S.W. (GREAT MISFORTUNE—
ADAM'S SPARE RIBS).

10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

ALLBRIGHTON, JOHN W., 21, Carfield Avenue, Sheffield.
BORTON, H. A., 107, Ferndale Road, Clapham, S.W.
FORD, GEORGE, Raglan House, Brunswick Street, Swansea.
FEREDAY, A. L., 222, Twickenham Road, Leytonstone.
GREENWOOD, H. VERNON, 28, Eastcourt Road, South Nor-
wood, S.E.
MATTHEWS, HENRY C., 71, Crofton Park Rd., Crofton Park, S.E.
PAVEY A., 4, Cann Street, Taunton.
STOKES, G., 4, Hamilton Road, Brentford.
TOMLINSON, E. W., Sowden House, Lymington, Devon.
WHITTINGTON, WALTER, 46, Langney Road, Eastbourne.

20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

AITKEN, W., 12, Smith Street, Kinning Park, Glasgow.
ANDREWS, A., 15, Walker Street, Paisley, Scotland.
BAILEY, A., 65, High Street, Worcester.
BAUER, A. J., 10, Westbrook Road, Margate.
BROWN, H. T., 3, Planders Mansions, Bedford Park, W.
BURNETT, Mrs. H., 8, Ayresome Terrace, Roundhay, Leeds.
CALLAGHAN, T., 636, Chorley Old Road, Bolton.
CHAPEL, E., 29, Montague Avenue, Barking, Essex.
COX, J. A., 4, Portland Street, Hereford.
DANFIELD, E., Miss, Alderney Farm, Moorside, Oldham.
GIBSON, E. H., 14, St. Helen's Crescent, Swansea.
HERMAN, E., 12, Broughton Lane, Manchester.
SAMPSON, C., 41, Inland Road, Paddington
MARGRIE, K. Mrs., 97, Portsmouth Road, Southampton.
MONTADOR, F., High Street, West Anstruther, Fife.
R. DELIFFE F., Birchfield, Stalybridge.
RATCLIFFE, J., 93 Crawford Avenue Smith-town Rd., Liverpool.
SMITH, R., 25, New Station Road, Fishponds, Bristol.
WARD, A. A., 54, Bruceick Avenue, Dunfermline, Fife.
WHYLOCK, E., Mrs., Glenholme, Broomberry Drive, Gourock,
Scotland.

Moyle, Mrs. C., 6, Cranworth-rd., Wis-
chester, Hants.
Neely, W. J., Cudduthel-rd., Inverness.
Nichol, W., Wiltonturn, Hawick.
Nicholson, T., 17, Ashley-ter., Edinburgh.
Notman, Ada, 10, Drinkfield-rd., Dar-
lington.
O'Callaghan, J., 6, North Mall, Cork.
Oliver, Mrs., 96, Botanic-rd., Glasnevin,
Dublin.
Osborne, A., 92, Kenyon-st., Fulham,
Oxenham, H., 326, Woolwich-rd.,
Charlton, Kent.
Oxpring, J. N., 68, Perry-st., Sheffield.
Parson, T., 7, Cove-row, Trinity-rd.,
Weymouth, Dorset.
Phillips, Mrs. R., 22, Cuba-st., Hulme,
Manchester.
Phillips, S., 23, North-st., Winhill, nr.
Burton-on-Trent.
Platt, G., 104, Uttometer-rd., Longton,
Staffs.
Pollet, Mrs., 57, Lugard-rd., Peckham.
Pope, Nurse, 109, Arbroath-rd., Dundee.
Poulson, C. A. M., 88, Trentham-rd.,
Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.
Powell, A., 112, Bolingbroke-grove,
Wandsworth Common.
Powell, Mrs. Mal, 75, Chesterfield-gdns.,
Harringay, London, N.
Prest, T., 38, Keane-st., Ashton-under-
Lyne, Lancs.
Price, J., 37, Vartry-rd., S. Tottenham.
Price, H. B., 708, Old Kent-rd., S.E.
Pullen, G., Milton-view, Elsecar, nr.
Barnsley.
Ramsden, H., 14, Montgomery-st., Roath
Park, Cardiff.
Ramsden, H. A., 66, Alliance-ave., Hull.
Raymond, J. O., Western-rd., Tring.
Rayne, Miss E., 69, Edith-rd., W.
Kensington, W.
Reif, John, 99, Bourne-st., Eastbourne.
Reed, Staff-Sergt. Gale, A.S.C., Duke of
York's Headquarters, Chelsea, S.W.
Ritchie, John, 99, St. Leonard-st.,
Edinburgh.
Robinson, J. T., 50, Windsor-rd.,
Palmer's Green, N.
Rogers, C. J., 54, Havelock-rd., Spark-
hill, Birmingham.
Roeber, J., 1, Brandon-bldgs., Chilton,
Bristol.
Rosa, C., 49, Jewell-st., Pontyvaith.
Rhonda Valley, Glam.
Rowlands, F. R., 51, Aubrey-st., L'pool.
Salter, G., Duke of Yorks School, Dover.
Sanderson, H., 2, The Avenue, Acre-lane,
Brixton, S.W.
Sanderson, R. W., 51, Belkdon-rd.,
Croydon.
Sawyer, W. E., 140, Welholme-rd.,
Grimsby.
Shaw, G. F., 8, Wagg-st., Congleton,
Cheshire.
Shipway, F. G., G.P.O., West, London.
E.C.
Skinner, A. L., 4, Hamilton-pl., Park-
lane, W.
Simpson, Mrs. H., Victoria-rd., Wood-
bridge, Suffolk.
Smedley, W., G.P.O., Ashby-de-la-
Zouch.
Spragg, W. F., Hugh-rd., Stoke, Coventry.
Starke, W. H., 91, Walnut-st., High-
town, Manchester.
Stevens, D., Tramway Offices, Bristol.
Swainson, E., Greenfield, Poplar-rd.,
Wrexham.
Taylor, G. H., Water-st., Castlefields,
Shrewsbury.
Taylor, A. C., 10, Tel-el-Kebir-rd.,
Sunderland.
Taylor, H. J., 23, Belgrave-rd., Queen's-
rd., Walthamstow.
Terrell, Joe, 135, Kirkdale-rd., Liverpool.
Thrippleton, C. L., 35, Roundhay-ave.,
Leeds.
Thomas, T., Tredgar Arms Hotel, Cross
Keys, nr. Newport, Mon.
Thornborrow, E., 7a, Tynest., Win-
thorpe, Blaydon-on-Tyne.
Trevor-Williams, O., Glaston, Llangefni,
Anglesey.
Tribbe, T., 17a, Glendy-rd., Brixton, S.W.
Trickett, Mrs. E., The Diggins, St.
Helens, L.O.W.
Vanstone, Sarah, 61, Cook's-rd., Kenning-
ton Park, S.E.
Victory, J., 38b, Montgomery-st.,
Edinburgh.
Walker, J. A., 84, Church Hill, Wednes-
bury, Staffs.
Wallingford, E. A., 47, Hulton-st., Moss
Side, Manchester.
Walling, R. H., 127, Mount Gold-rd.,
Plymouth.
Warren, Carrie, 33, St. Maur-rd.,
Fulham, S.W.
Watkins, H., 14, King's Court Mansions,
Fulham-rd., S.W.
Watson, Mrs. May, 25, Shipman-rd.,
Forest Hill, S.E.
Webb, F., 1a, Camden-rd., Tunbridge
Wells, Kent.
Went, A. G., 530, High-rd., Leyton, N.E.
Weston, F., 41, West-rd., Benwell,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Whiteside, F., Goslen House, Kelso, N.B.
Whiting, P. F., 22, Durham-rd.,
Wimbleton, S.W.
Whitlock, F., 152, Robertson-st., Clap-
ham, S.W.
Wilkins, J. L., 44, Bryngwyn-rd., New-
port, Mon.
Williams, F., 101, Grange-rd., King's
Heath, Birmingham.
Willis, Mrs. G. L., 11, Franchise-st.,
Kidderminster, Worcester.
Woodhead, W. S., c/o P. C. Coates Atlas
Works, Newbridge-lane, Stockport.
Writer, N., 3, Worthingham-rd., East
Dulwich, S.E.

LIST OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLET" COMPETITION NO. 16.

A selection from the List of 3,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mrs. Bull" dated Feb. 15th

Abraham, Wm., 42, Hestercombe-ave.,
Fulham, S.W.
Abraham, A., 23, D. of Yorks R.M.
School, Dover.
Alston, T., 33, Cross-st., Radcliffe.
Attenhead, Ada, 93, Tyers-st., Vauxhall.
Bambrick, S., 155, Richmond-rd.,
Kingston-on-Thames.
Bangus, W., c/o B.O.C., Ltd., 163, Hope-st.,
Glasgow.
Barnes, M. A., 64, Orchard-rd.,
Erdington, Birmingham.
Baker, C. E., 5, Pearce-rd., Ipswich.
Banks, J., 314, Entwistle-rd., Rochdale.
Barker, W., 2, Caledonian-ter., Shotley
Gate, Suffolk.
Barnes, Mrs. A., 30, Leap Hill-rd.,
Boscombe.
Barnett, W., 22, Myles-st., Salford,
Manchester.
Bates, A., 25, Eastgate, Sleaford, Lincs.
Batlett, S., 5, Fairfields-rd., Basing-
stoke, Hants.
Beckett, W., 6, Blaenclydach-st.,
Grangeford, Cardiff.
Bellairs, R., Ferby's, Cheltenham.
Bells, Mabel C., 16, Margaret-st., Hull.
Belton, W., 19a, Mornington-rd., Wan-
stead, Essex.
Belle, M., Heather Glen, Cunningham
Park, Harrow.
Bell, J., 96, Laisterdyke, Bradford.
Bell, A., 7, Clarence-rd., Eaglescliffe,
Stockton-on-Tees.
Bentley, Mrs. H. W., 63, Belgrave-rd.,
New, Moston, Manchester.
Britten, N., jun., Larchford Hill,
Chaddesley Corbett, Kidderminster.
Brome, T., jun., 144, Corporation-st.,
Stafford.
Brown, A., 17, Fairlight-rd., Eastbourne.
Brown, Geo. Wm., 122, Paley-rd., Brad-
ford, Yorks.
Buchan, A., 05, Std., R.N. Barracks,
Portsmouth.
Burnett, A. G., Pagoda, 18, Western-st.,
Brighton.
Butcher, Tom, c/o Miss N. Whiting, 38,
Southampton-st., King's Cross, N.
Butler, A., 16, Oakland-rd., Dovercourt.
Butler, D., "Glencoe," Hale End-rd.,
Highams Park.
Byrns, E., 12, Southcroft-rd., Mitcham,
Surrey.
Carrington, H., 601, Ashton Old-rd.,
Oldham, Manchester.
Carlton, A., 10, Claremont-ave., New
Bury, Surrey.
Carr, V., Church-passageway, Oldham.
Carr, Mrs. H., 234, Golf Hill-drive,
Barnstaple, Devon.
Carrington, R., "The Poplars," Gosforth,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Carr, J., 186, High-st., Ramsgate.
Carr, J., 1, Sussex Mews, Kempston,
Brighton.
Carr, J., Ickleford House, Carlton-rd.,
Boston, Lincs.

Cooper, Mrs. L., Bridgewater Lodge,
Maidenhead.
Cooper, J., Heather, nr. Ashby-de-la-
Zouch.
Crouch, A., 26, Melbourne-rd., West
Bridford, Nottingham.
Cull, H., 123, Easton-rd., Bristol.
Cummings, Mrs., 21, Campbell-rd., Bow-
ditch, Bow, E.
Cundell, E., ILM. Wireless Station,
Scarboro', Yorks.
Cunningham, Miss L., 5, Blenheim-rd.,
Roath Park, Cardiff.
Dale, L., Newport, Limerick.
Davy, Mrs. C., 29, Dudley-rd., Kingston-
on-Thames, Surrey.
Davies, J., Schools, Waunarlwyda, nr.
Swansea, Glam.
Davis, A., 41, Arlingford-rd., Brixton.
Davis, C., 65, Plumstead Common-rd.,
Plumstead, S.E.
Daves, Mrs. A., 11, Guildford-ter., Ley-
burne-rd., Dover.
Dewar, T., 84, Broughton-rd., Edinburgh.
Douglas, H. M., Quainton Cottage,
Quainton, Bucks.
Edmunds, W., 75, St. Paul's-rd., High-
bury, N.
Eldridge, J. S., 35, Aylesbury-rd.,
Walworth, S.E.
Elmes, D. A., 134, Bramhall-lane,
Stockport.
Ellis, W., 17a, Commercial-rd., East-
bourne.
Elliott, Mrs. E., 71, Gloucester-rd.,
Regent's Park, N.W.
Evans, C., 3, Guernsey-rd., Ilford, E.
Eversard, H., 3, Edwalton-ave., West
Bridford, Nottingham.
Farrant, G., 68, Ashdown-rd., Worthing.
Feltham, W., 5, Boscawen-rd., Evelyn-
st., Deptford, S.E.
Flewitt, F. W., 1, Brendon-st., Leicester.
Forbes, S., 397, Stratford-rd., Sparkbrook,
Birmingham.
Foy, J., Greenhead Brewery, Bridgeton,
Glasgow.
Flynn, S. P., 62, Kellett-rd., Brixton.
Golden, C., Chautrey Dene, Guildford.
Grace, Miss M., Station House, G.E.R.
Rayne, Essex.
Hackman, Alice, 194, Hoe-st., Waltham-
stow, N.
Harding, A., 6, Belsham-st., Hackney.
Harris, E., Underground Lavatory,
Broad-st., Golden-sq., W.
Hartley, R., 17, Oak-st., Colne, Lancs.
Haslam, H., c/o 6, Plessey-ter., New
Delaval, Newnham, Northumberland.
Hatchard, A., 55, Campden House-rd.,
Kensington.
Hawkins, A., Carlton-pl., Southampton.
Hill, J., 235, Campbell-bldgs., Burdett-
st., Westminster Bridge-rd.
Hill, Mrs. J., Mount Collyer-ave., Belfast.
Hinkins, Mrs., Hutton, Warwick.
Houghton, A., 130, Market-st., Hoy-
lake, Cheshire.

Alouse, G. J., Poole-rd., Branksome
Gosnemouth.
Housini, W., 163, Camp-rd., Leeds.
Howell, J., 5, Argyle-ave., Eastville,
Bristol.
Howell, Mrs. W., Astfield Lodge,
Petersfield-rd., Midhurst.
Husband, C., West Chickerell, Wey-
mouth, Dorset.
Igouldin, T., Hearts of Oak Office, New-
port, Mon.
Ince, S., Corozal, Pendennis-rd., Streath-
am, S.W.
Jackson, W., 85, Finden-st., Hillsboro',
Suffolk.
James, C., 171, Monks-rd., Priory Estate,
Heavitree, Exeter.
Johnson, F., 47, Cromwell-rd.,
London.
Innes, J., 99, Salters-rd., Gosforth,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
John, J., 20, Cambridge-rd., Cardiff.
Kelley, J., 35, Melford-rd., Thornton
Heath, Surrey.
Kendall, F., "Inveresk," Maunbury
Way, Dorchester, Dorset.
King, F., Hall-ter., Bishop Auckland.
Krohn, —, Temple House, Ryde, I.O.W.
Lewen, Mrs. S., 273, Norwood-rd., Herne
Hill, S.E.
Lucas, J., 1, Archer-rd., Penarth.
Luff, H., 1, Winifred Villas, Hereson-
rd., Ramsgate.
Macintyre, G., 10, Springfield-pl., Bath.
Magnus, Edith, 10, Wilderton-rd., Stam-
ford Hill, N.
Major, W. H., 39, Abbot-st., Lincoln.
Marsh, C., The Corner House, Frinton-
on-Sea, Essex.
Martin, J., 11, Haggergate, Whithy.
Martin, L., 42, Susans-rd., Eastbourne.
Mason, L., 10, Linden-rd., Bourville, nr.
Birmingham.
Mason, J., 94, College-st., Chelsea, S.W.
Mathieson, J., Ladhope Inn, Galashiels.
May, J. A., 37, Market-st., Hadding-
ton, Scotland.
McBride, J., 84, Pemberton-rd., Old
Swan, Liverpool.
McEntart, J., 33, Ponsoby-st., Princes
Park, Liverpool.
McLellan, D., 10, Hozier-st., Partick W.,
via Glasgow.
McLeish, J., 114, Lauriston-pl., Edinburgh.
Melton, C., 130, Linkfield-rd., Isle
worth, Middlesex.
Metcalfe, C., Woodhall Grange, Calverley,
Leeds.
Miller, E., 23, Highborne-view, Ainsley
Bridge-rd., Leeds.
Mullman, W., Bayston Hill, nr. Shrews-
bury.
Morgan, P., Poulner, Ringwood, Hants.
Moore, J., 68, Lowesmoor, Worcester.
Moore, Miss L., 9, Shortlands, Upway,
Dorset.
Mony, J. M., 10, Millar-st., Motherwell,
Scotland.
Morris, L. A., 74, Church-st., Basingstoke

Complete List of 3,000 Winners of Valuable Prizes can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Of course it was a foregone conclusion that Long Set and Jerry M. would respectively head the weights for the Lincolnshire and Grand National. Most people, when they opened their newspapers on Friday morning, at once turned to Jerry M.'s weight at Liverpool, and general satisfaction ensued when it was found that Sir C. Assheton-Smith's champion was not called upon to do the absolutely impossible, but had been given a chance with only 3 lbs. more to carry than the 12 st. 7 lbs. under which he was successful last March. Whether he could have beaten all previous records will never be known now, for "Bob" Gore has recently reported to Sir Charles that the "noise" that Jerry M. made last year had got much worse, and the horse has been scratched out of all engagements.

In the Lincolnshire, Long Set is handicapped 6 lbs. above his nearest rival, this being Spanish Prince. Before the Cambridgeshire last year, it was said that Maiden Erlegh in a trial had proved himself as good as Long Set at even weights. Mr. Ord evidently does not quite believe that, but the reports of the trial and the determined backing of Maiden Erlegh have had their effect on his estimate, for he places the four-year-old only 8 lbs. below the other. He seems to have taken the generally expressed opinion that Maiden Erlegh would have won the Cambridgeshire had he not rapped himself in running, for had he won in reality, Mr. Ord could hardly have apportioned him more than an extra couple of pounds. So far nobody has discovered any great discrepancy in any of the handicaps issued, and further comment may be left till after the acceptances appear. These are due to-day, but far too late for any reference in this week's issue. The acceptances will help us in some degree to gauge the intentions of owners and trainers. No doubt some sort of market will be formed, but it is as well to bear in mind that eight weeks have yet to elapse before we are due at Lincoln, and the probabilities are that during that interval frost and snow will step in and interrupt training operations. Let the early "shop-window" goods alone and possess your souls in patience for at least another month.

Prophetic.

Leicester is a shocking programme to discuss, entries in almost every race being large and of poor class, and Sandown at the end of the week looks a far more likely proposition. If in the Midlands the ground is not too

holding, MASTER-AT-ARMS will have a big chance of taking the Wigston Steeplechase on Wednesday. Given a run, it is impossible to see what could beat AT LAST for the Novices' Steeplechase. On the second day, LEESON PARK should be followed in the January Hurdle, as should the hitherto unlucky MIDAS in the Harrington Steeplechase. At Sandown Park, on Friday,

BRAXTED

is nicely treated in the Grand Prize, as is GOTHAM in the February Hurdle. PLEASURE GARDEN, with his light weight, should be capable of taking the Mole Steeplechase, unless he be kept for Saturday, when he figures in the Ripley Steeplechase—a selling event. On that day

GLEN HESTON

must be given a further chance in the Prince of Wales's Steeplechase, and HENRY WINKFIELD is by no means out of the Cardinal's Hurdle. The Maiden Hurdle looks rather good for TWEEDLEDUM.

SPORTING REPLIES.

THE CARLTON SPORTS CLUB (Montreux, Switzerland).—G. F. V. (Southampton), AND OTHERS.—We know nothing of this concern. ATHLETIC PUBLISHING CO. (Copenhagen).—BAFFLED.—Have nothing to do with these people.

G. AND W. PETERS (Twickenham), W. K. (Preston).—Your complaint appears to be well founded, but we cannot, as already announced, go into the details of such matters.

T. G. SYNDICATE (GENEVA).—J. W. B. (Newcastle).—Have nothing to do with this. The Turf Guardian Society has, through its chairman, Mr. A. A. Skoien, disclaimed connection with it. In our issue of October 12 last we commented on the fact that the secretary's name was Keen, and suggested mustard. *Verb. sup.*

H. DIAMOND (Lucerne).—Mrs. A. C. (Brighton), T. N. R. (Glasgow), AND OTHERS.—You must communicate direct with Mr. Diamond. Lucerne is sufficient address.

OUR £5 A WEEK FOR LIFE FOOTBALL PRIZE.

The table of selections we give this week should be of great assistance to those of our readers who have not yet sent in their coupons, which we would remind them must reach us not later than Friday, February 7th.

Copyright Table. All rights reserved.

Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, 8th February, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Year's Result.	JOHN BULL.	London's Weekly.	London Mail.	Umpire.	Sunday Chronicle.	Weekly Dispatch.	Irish Sporting Illustration.	Football Guide.
Blackburn R. v. Manchester U. ...	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Draw
Derby C. v. Notts C. ...	No Match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Tottenham H. v. Middlesbrough ...	Spurs won	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home
Sheffield Wed. v. Aston V. ...	Sheffield won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Sheffield Wed. v. Aston V. ...	Everton won	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Draw
Everton v. Liverpool ...	Draw	Dr. w	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Home	Draw
West Brom. A. v. Bolton W. ...	Draw	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
Manchester C. v. Sheffield Un. ...	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw
Bradford C. v. Newcastle Un. ...	Draw	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home
Woolwich A. v. Oldham A. ...	No Match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Sunderland v. Chelsea ...	No match	Home	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
Birmingham v. Preston N. E. ...	Blackpool won	Home	Away	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Away
Blackpool v. Clapton O. ...	Burnley won	Away	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Home
Aristol C. v. Burnley ...	No Match	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Sury v. Bradford ...	Draw	Draw	Away	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
Fulham v. Barnsley ...	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Grimby T. v. Wolverhampton ...	Stockport won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Huddersfield v. Stockport C. ...	Leed C. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Leeds C. v. Leicester F. ...	No Match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Lincoln C. v. Gloscep ...	Hull C. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw
Notts F. v. Hull C. ...	Draw	Home	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Draw	Draw	Home
Widlingham v. Bristol R. ...	North'pton won	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
Northampton v. Millwall A. ...	Queen's Pk. won	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Queen's P. R. v. Brentford ...	No Match	Home	Home	Draw	Away	Home	Draw	Home	Home
Northyr T. v. Coventry C. ...	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
Crystal P. v. Brighton and H. ...	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw
Plymouth A. v. West Ham U. ...	S'thamp'ton won	Home	Home	Home	Away	Away	Home	Home	Home
Southampton v. Exeter C. ...	No Match	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
Reading v. Portsmouth ...	Norwich won	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Away	Away	Home
Derby City v. Swindon ...	Stoke won	Draw	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Home
Stoke v. Watford ...									

Home signifies first mentioned team to win—Away second mentioned team to win.

FOOTBALL. (Established 1907.)

Do your business with **W. & A. FOX**, Football Accountants.
7a, HOPE STREET, EDINBURGH.
 All communications may now be sent there. Two days delay saved.
 Silver Plated Cigarette Cases given away weekly. Price Lists and full particulars sent on receipt of 1d. postcard.
 JOHN BULL states: "The firm of W. & A. Fox has now been established some time as Football Accountants. Their rules are compiled in a most liberal spirit, and are eminently fair to both parties."
 Also at Geneva, Switzerland.

PATRICK FARLEY,

TURF and FOOTBALL Accountant,
19, HOWARD STREET, GLASGOW.

NOTE. Winnings posted back to clients by first post after results are known.

Also at Lucerne, Switzerland.

ESTD. 17 YEARS.

POSTAGE 2½d.

Tip-Top Prices. Football.

WHITE, FISHER & CO.,

(THE WORLD'S PREMIER FOOTBALL ACCOUNTANTS.)

5, RUE DU COMMERCE, Geneva, Switzerland.

"ROLL UP, YE ASPIRANTS TO UNTOLD WEALTH."
AND MAKE A START THIS WEEK.

Coupons, Price List, &c., sent free upon application; but do not wait for coupons, write your selections upon plain paper.

EVERYBODY'S DOING IT.

Good prices returned. **NOTHING BARRED** in the **FOUR LEAGUES.** Letters must bear a 2 p.m. postmark at the latest. Not less than 4 Home Teams accepted. Over £25,000 paid away last season. If you mention this paper, we will send you Booklet containing Revised Fixture List and other valuable Information.

Prices the same. Rules the same. Our motto the same:— **PROMPT PAYMENTS.**

See our announcement in the "**RACING and FOOTBALL OUTLOOK**" every week.

LESLIE MURRAY & CO.,

7, North St. David Street, Edinburgh, & Binningen, Switzerland.

TURF AND FOOTBALL SPECIALISTS.
LINCOLN AND NATIONAL.

No LIMIT!!! SINGLE & DOUBLE EVENT.
WRITE FOR BOOK OF RULES.
 ESTABLISHED IN ONE RACING OFFICE NINETEEN YEARS.

HARRY APPLETON.

THE MAN WHO ALWAYS PAYS.
THE VERY BEST TERMS

Turf & Football Accountant,
79 & 81, BOROUGH HIGH STREET, LONDON BRIDGE,
& LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

BERT FRY 5, FERRIER STREET, LEITH, SCOTLAND,
 & BIRSFELDEN, SWITZERLAND.

FOOTBALL.

No. 1 or PICK WHERE YOU LIKE.

No. 2 or Selected Matches. No. 3 or Half-time Matches.
 Write for Particulars. For my announcements see "Racing and Football Outlook."

A.B.C. GUIDE TO STOCK EXCHANGE

(44th Edition 1913.)

Stock Exchange Operations thoroughly explained, also Call Options. How to open an account with limited risk. How to avoid Brokers' Commissions. Contains Highest and Lowest Sales for last 15 years. Gratis from Publishers—

FARROW, GRAHAM & CO.,
 1, Bank Street, Royal Exchange, Manchester.

ROBERT BURRELL, BINNINGEN, SWITZERLAND.

(Sufficient address.)

The Oldest Football and Turf Accountant on the Continent.
 Established 1893.

Follow the Leader.

All the teams in the First League, Second League, and Southern League to pick from. You can send your selections on plain paper.

SPECIAL FREE OFFER.

Send at once for coupons. The best odds offered and prompt payments.
 Send a 1d. Post card for terms.

H. HAMILTON & CO.,

BINNINGEN, SWITZERLAND.

THE OLDEST-ESTABLISHED FOOTBALL ACCOUNTANTS IN THE WORLD.

FOOTBALL

Send a postcard (postage 1d.) for the most liberal price-list issued. Absolutely every match in the English, Southern, and Scotch Leagues to pick from. No need to wait for Coupons; write your commissions on plain paper.

£50 FREE OFFER open to all Clients

Our Football Annual sent free on mentioning this paper.

J. GOFF, BINNINGEN, SWITZERLAND.

POSTCARDS, 1d. LETTERS 2½d.

TURF & FOOTBALL ACCOUNTANT, LINCOLN & NATIONAL.

FULL MARKET ODDS AND A RUN FOR YOUR MONEY. Be sure and send for my little Green Book; most liberal and up-to-date. No racing man should be without one.

FOOTBALL, PICK WHERE YOU LIKE in the four Leagues, English and Scotch. Do so now if you wish to participate in the most liberal odds yet offered. Don't wait for coupons, plain paper will do.

What is your Number?

Our New Weekly Ballot for 50 Helpers at Two Guineas Apiece

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING ISSUE.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL of specified date, bearing any of such numbers, we will, upon production within seven days of publication (a reasonable extension will be allowed to foreign and Colonial claimants) of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of TWO GUINEAS in return for his using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation. Before the money is paid we require a full report of all the work done.

The following claims have been received in respect of our issue of January 18th:—

AUGUSTUS COLLIS, ESQ., 23 Tufnell Park Road, N. January 18th. No. 704,973.

THOS. GLEDHILL, ESQ., 5 Newsome Place, Batley Carr, Batley. January 18th. No. 546,176.

JOHN HOGAN, ESQ., 3 Derby Terrace, Off School Lane, Wigan, Lancs. January 18th. No. 696,706.

T. J. MOYNAHAN, ESQ., 23 Mott Street, Hockley, Birmingham. January 18th. No. 484,448.

MRS. E. BOTTOMORE, 18 Sweinton Hollows, Nottingham. January 18th. No. 211,342.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of February 1st:—

1095	186645	374569	574805	691150
34940	189435	390839	587244	702571
47569	192979	415288	590986	718791
60543	217738	460453	599186	719308
83915	220048	474916	603977	722407
97395	229434	496731	627633	725273
104985	262830	500744	645240	756094
131622	271929	523512	653635	759228
145489	306211	545207	678272	767055
165103	346873	551717	687628	769679

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 12TH.)

The John Bull League.

OBJECTS: To Stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to Create a Robust and Self-reliant Public Opinion; and to Promote a Common Sense Business Government for a Common Sense Business People.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The General Secretary,
 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member and send me a Membership Badge, for which I enclose P.O. for 6d.

Name

Address

Plasmon Cocoa ALONE

has the RIGHT TO USE this
authoritative statement by
"THE LANCET":

"PLASMON COCOA

contains ALL the constituents able to
support life. The admixture of
Plasmon makes Cocoa a very
nourishing article, an advantage
which in its natural state it lacks."

The Perfection of Cocoa. A Complete and Perfect Food.

Tins, 9d. and 1s. 4d.

**SPECIAL
OFFER**

ART METAL BOX, containing a packet of Plasmon,
Plasmon Cocoa, Plasmon Biscuits, Plasmon Oats,
Plasmon Custard, Plasmon Tea, and Plasmon Chocolate,
and an Illustrated Cookery Book, with Hints on
Carving, 1/- post free. Plasmon, Ltd. (Dept. 114),
Farrington Street, London.



"Plasmon makes Bone, Muscle, Brain."

DAVID F.—, M.D.